PRETTY PEGGY
PRINCES T.,
February 3rd.
CHARLES AUSTIN
TOOTS POUNDS
LORNA POUNDS

THE ERA

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WANTED, Good Companies.
Wire, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Opera House, Southport, for Jan. 12 and 19, Feb. 2 and 23, and March 22. Apply JONES, Secretary, Southport Opera House, Lord-street, Southport.

WANTED, Company. Dec. 26, 27, Andover. Play in Chamber Sets. LOVERIDGE & CO., Dover. Wires, "Dramatic."

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Jan. 26.
LAWSON LAMBERT

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-class Stock Company for three months, twice-nightly season, commencing May 17, 1920. Full particulars to CHAS. G. ELPHINSTONE.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"Monty's Flapper," "Ann."
WANTED, Dec. 26, 27, 29, Feb. 16, 23, March 8, 15. HALDANE CRICHTON, 15, Bolton-gardens, Teddington.

"MY OLD DUTCH."
By Arthur Shirley and Albert Chevalier.
500th performance.
WANTED Known, Companion Play, by same Authors, in preparation, entitled "A FALLEN STAR."

Communications, C. INGLE,
16, Bartholomew-villas, Kentish Town, London.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO'S.
"Ashamed of the Man She Married."
"Somebody's Wife." Star Company.
WANTED, Dec. 22, 29, Jan. 5, 12.
Booked two consecutive weeks Glasgow, Bolton, N. Shields, Jarrow, Nottingham.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T.R., Leicester.

For the Great Success at the CRITERION THEATRE.
"OUR MR. HEPPLEWHITE."
WANTED, Feb. 9, Aug. 9, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 18, Nov. 8, 15, 29. Now booking 1921.
Apply, W. E. Holloway, 7, Ramillies-rd., Bedford Park, W. 11.

"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
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"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
This tour is proving the most successful of this wonderful play.
For business done this autumn refer to:—
Howard & Wyndham, Ltd., Edinburgh.
Arthur Jefferson, Glasgow.
A. J. & J. J. Wright, Greenock.
J. H. Savile, Perth, &c., &c.
Can be played once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Managers to send Vacant dates, Scotland or England.
DURWARD LELY, c/o Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, Dec. 29, Jan. 5.
"SHIP AHOY."
The Musical Comedy Revue.
"SHIP AHOY!"
Wire or write for Dec. 29.
GALLIMORE, Assembly Rooms, Market Harborough; next, Assembly Rooms, Market Harborough.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Owing to the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, the issue of "THE ERA" appearing in Christmas week will be published on

TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23,

instead of on the Wednesday, as usual.

All copy for Advertisements intended for that issue should reach us not later than

NOON on MONDAY, DECEMBER 22,

to ensure insertion. Advertisements reaching us after this time will be held over and inserted in our Pantomime Double Number, to be published on DECEMBER 31.

THEATRES WANTED.

"BETTY AT BAY."
"BETTY AT BAY."
Direct from the Strand Theatre.
Entire London Production Carried.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Jan. 12 (South).
Also Feb. 16 and 23,
March 1, 15, and 22.
April 5, 12, 26.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

THE BRANDON THOMAS COMPANY IN "CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Entire West-End Production Carried.
Direct from the Garrick Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,

March 8, 15, and 29.

April 26, May 3, 17.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

CHARLES HAWTREY'S FAMOUS FARCICAL COMEDY.
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Entire West-End Production Carried.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,

July 12, 19.

Aug. 30, Sept. 6, 13, 20.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

ROBERT COURTNEIDGE'S COMPANIES.

"Daddies,"
Haymarket Theatre, W.
"Daddies,"
2 Cos. Spring.
With Mr. Mollison Kidd.
"The Man from Toronto."
3 Companies.
"The Law Divine,"
"Scandal"
2 Co.'s.
"The Arcadians,"
"Petticoat Fair."

"Paddy." The next best thing. To be produced Manchester, Feb. 23.

WANTED,
Jan. 19, 26.
Feb. 16.
March 8.
April 5, 19.

DOUGLAS MILLAR.
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

NEVILL GRAHAM'S PRODUCTIONS.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 9, 23,
March 1, 15,
April 12,
Aug. 16, 30.
Nov. 8, 15.
"THE MAID OF THE EAST."

Wanted, First-class Theatres or Halls,
March 1, 15,
April 5, 12,
for
A NEW MUSICAL PLAY
(founded on "The New Boy").
Production, Jan. 26, Grand, Wolverhampton.

NEVILL GRAHAM,
61/63, Brixton-road, London, S.W.
Tel., Brixton 2276.

WANTED, Number One Theatres and Music Halls only.
Once or Twice Nightly.

"BUZZ-BUZZ."
The Greatest Musical Success of the present London season. Has been running over 12 months continuously at the Vaudeville Theatre.
Dec. 29, Feb. 23, March 8 (Midlands or North).
March 29, April 12, 19, 26 (South).
May 10, June 7, 14, July 5, 12, 19, 26, Aug. 23.
Sept. 16 (3 nights), to follow Rhyl,
Sept. 20, Oct. 4, 11, 25, onwards.

"BUBBLY."
André Charlot's phenomenally successful Musical Production from the Comedy, London.
March 1 (Midlands).
March 22 (to follow King's, Southsea), and a few dates on.
Also several vacancies Autumn, 1920.
"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S."
The entire production from the Garrick Theatre, London, carried. Third visits booked King's, Edinburgh, Borough, Stratford, Blackpool, Theatre Royal, Chatham, &c., &c.
Jan. 5, 12, and 26 (to precede and follow T.R., Bath), Feb. 16, 23 (Midlands or North), to precede O.H., Middlesbrough, March 29, April 5, 19, 26, May 3 and 10 (South).
"HOBSON'S CHOICE."
The successful Farcical Comedy from the Prince of Wales and Apollo Theatres, London. Bookings include P.O.W., Birmingham; O.H., Middlesbrough; Grand, Blackpool; Edinburgh; H.M.T., Dundee; Empire, Penge; Empire, Preston; Palace, Southampton; Hippo., Richmond; &c., &c. Jan. 1 (3 nights), to follow Colwyn Bay Jan. 5 and 26 (North), Feb. 23 (South) April 5, 19, 26, May 3, 23, 31, June 7, 17 (3 nights), to follow Oxford, July 1 (3 nights), to follow Weston-super-Mare, July 5, 12, 22 (3 nights), to follow Rhyl, Aug. 2, 9, 30, Sept. 13, 27, and a few dates, on.
"TYPHOON."
The late Laurence Irving's Great Dramatic Success from the Haymarket and Queen's Theatres, London.
First Tour of the Provinces.
Feb. 2 (between Brighton and Harrogate).
Feb. 19 (3 nights), to follow Grantham.
Feb. 23, March 1, 8, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, and May 24.
Also various dates Summer and Autumn.

Wire or write,
W. FOSTER HORSFIELD,
Suites 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.
Telephone, Regent 208.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 22, 29, Jan. 12, 19, 26, &c., for dramatic attractions. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 11.

"BUZZ-BUZZ."
The Successful Musical Production now playing to phenomenal business at the Vaudeville Theatre.
WANTED, Dec. 29.

"HOBSON'S CHOICE."
The Successful Farcical Comedy from the Apollo and Prince of Wales' Theatres, London.
Wanted, Jan. 1 (3 nights), to follow Colwyn Bay.
Wire, HORSFIELD, Suite 17, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
'Phone, Regent 208.

THEATRES WANTED.

"LITTLE WOMEN."

WANTED,
APRIL 5, APRIL 12,
"LITTLE WOMEN."
Played with Enormous Success at the New Theatre, London. Transferred to the Holborn Empire for a season of daily matinées.
APRIL 5, APRIL 12.
Wire immediately to
HOLLES, NORMAN and ZEITLIN,
6, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. 2.

"LITTLE WOMEN."

WANTED, Jan. 12, 19, on, for LENA STANTON'S Pantomime, "ROBINSON CRUSOE." LENA STANTON as Robinson Crusoe. Syd Seymour (Will Atkins), Vic Verney, Fred Hart, Lena M. Jay as Billy Taylor, Wee Toss and Betty, Maye Eden (Polly), Dolly Mead, Troupe of Dancers.

FIVE GULLIVERS (COMEDY GIANTS), FANDOR TROUPE OF LADY CYCLISTS, HARRY JOSEPH as Mrs. Pamela Pussyfoot Crusoe.

Wire Alex. Theatre, Widnes.

LEONARD LAURENCE and DOROTHY WEST-SYMES

present

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."
And Repertoire of West-End Plays.
WANTED, Dec. 29 and Jan. 12.
Dec. 29 and Jan. 12.
Dec. 29 and Jan. 12.

Opera House, Scarborough.

J. FORBES KNOWLES' CO.
WANTED, Theatres.
Also one for Repertoire.
17, Leicester-street, W.C. 2.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY'S NO. 1 COMPANY.

WANTED, Dec. 29, for the greatest money attraction on the road.

"A MILL GIRL'S WEDDING."
"A MILL GIRL'S WEDDING."
"A MILL GIRL'S WEDDING."

Wire, HERBERT SHELLEY, Hippodrome, Bolton. Next, Royal, Guildford.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, HERBERT JAY & ANTHONY ELLIS'S CO., in the world's record Farce, "A LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF."
Jan. 26, West of South Wales,
March 1, Midlands or North,
May 3, Midlands or South,
A few weeks for Autumn, 1920.
Apply, PERCIVAL M. SELBY,
7 and 8, Leicester-place, W.C. 2.

LOUIS CALVERT in "DADDALUMS."
Prior to London production.
Cast includes Louis Calvert, Edyth Olive, Ernest Hendrie, Margaret Vaughan, W. Edward Stirling, Edward Bonfield, Francis Lister, &c.
WANTED, Feb. 23 (?), March 8, 15, 22, April 5, June 28, and on.
Also entire production of "YOU NEVER CAN TELL," with Louis Calvert in his original part.
All communications, W. EDWARD STIRLING, 3, Cambridge-mansions, Cambridge-road, London, S.W. 11. 'Phone, Battersea 966.

"THE QUAKER GIRL."
"THE QUAKER GIRL."
The famous Musical Comedy.
WANTED, Dec. 29, 30, 31.
In South Wales.
Wire, VYVIAN THOMAS,
115, Crayfordway, Crayford, Kent.

"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."
WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 26.
"THE LUCK OF THE NAVY."
Feb. 16.
"GENERAL POST."
Feb. 23 and April 5.
ALEXANDER TELFORD,
58, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Grand Christmas Pantomime.
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
WANTED, Jan. 12 and 19 (?) and Feb. 9.
Forty Artists.
Everything carried.
A production that can follow anything.
Magnificently dressed and staged, and Originalities
Guaranteed to pack any theatre.
Wire or write,
PERCY FRANKS,
O.H., Cheltenham.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section

ARTISTS WANTED.

BALLROOM DANCING.
WANTED, well-dressed couple, fully experienced in all latest dances, to appear each evening in exhibition dances for ballroom in Provinces. Those capable of giving lessons during day essential. Write fullest particulars of experience and terms to Box 75, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE QUAKER GIRL."

WANTED, Tall, Dark, Good-looking Girl for Small Heavy Parts. Apply, between 12 and 1 Wednesday, VYVIAN THOMAS, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, Soubrette, for first-class Revue; able to sing ballad (mezzo-soprano preferred); also able to do rag numbers and move well; rehearse Monday next; fare paid to join; long run to right person. Send photo, and terms to NORTON & WRIGHT, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

"Bonnie Brier Bush" Tour.

WANTED, Kate Carnegie, straight, English, and Annie, Dairymaid, Scotch; also Posty, Scotch comedy; rehearse at once. Photos., refs., terms, and all particulars, DURWARD LELY, Bridge of Cully, N.B.

WANTED, Tall, Powerful Actor, part of Yogi in "Eyes of Youth"; must have good voice, elocutionary powers; used to Shakespearean and Dramatic Work. Height, photos., fullest particulars (no callers), KEITH KENNETH, Regent Palace Hotel, London.

WANTED, gent., for small comedy part (Tommy), in sketch; rehearse at once and open Monday next.
Particulars to
Box 69, "The Era."

WANTED, for well-known Farce, Character Actor for eccentric Frenchman, quick and excitable; Straight Actor for man about town and to understudy lead; pretty Actress for small part, 25 to 30, and to understudy; possibly robust Comic Old Gentleman. All must be refined and of good appearance; long tour.
Photos. and lowest terms, Box 85, "The Era."

WANTED,
PRINCIPALS,
CHORUS,
and
ORCHESTRA.
Desiring to join the
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.,
Apply (by letter only) to
The Secretary,
Carl Rosa Opera Co.,
8, Staple Inn, Holborn, W.C. 1.

The tours of late years have averaged 50 weeks each.
A Few Vacancies this Tour.
Engagements now being made for summer and autumn, 1920.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos. essential. SIDNEY JAY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone, Museum 4329.

Messrs. WALKER & SARGEANT'S AGENCY.

TELEGRAMS: "STAGEY, WESTCENT."

HOURS: 10.30 to 1; 2 to 5.

DRAMA, FARCE, MUSICAL COMEDY, REVUE, PANTOMIMES, CONCERT PARTIES, SKETCHES, AND ACTS, &c., &c.

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

ALL KINDS OF ARTISTS.

WANTED, AT ONCE.

4a, PARTON-STREET, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW (Leading into Red Lion-square).

Telephone: Holborn 4955.

WANTED, Clever Girls, Vocalists and Dancers, for Troupe; good home; long, comfortable engagement; rehearse at once. Apply, NELSON BARRETT, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Dancers, for "Heads or Tails" Revue. No weeks out; open at once. Send photo, and terms to NORTON & WRIGHT. This week, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

ERNEST DOTTRIDGE'S COMPANY.
CHORUS LADIES.

WANTED, for "My Son Sammy,"
To open at once,
Musical Comedy Ladies,
Tall and with trained voices.
Send full particulars, references, Photos, experience, salary, to
MADAME DUBOIS, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Dancers, for Revue, open Monday next, in London. Long engagement. Apply, Thursday, 11 o'clock. Rehearse same time.
YOUNG, 63, Burton-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Chorus and Dancers for "SHIP AHOY!" revue; rehearse Monday; half salary for rehearsals. GALLIMORE, Assembly Rooms, Market Harborough.

WANTED, Quartette of Dancers; rehearse Opera House, Coventry, immediately, through breach of contract.
Wire terms and pars.,
OSMOND, O.H., Coventry.

Huddersfield and District Amateur Light Opera Society.

WANTED, Coach to produce "Miss Hook of Holland," March 1 to 6, 1920; must know thoroughly. Apply, SHAW, 43, Westgate, Huddersfield.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, Operatic Prima Donna, mezzo-soprano; thoroughly experienced (good accompanist); fine stage presence; desires Engagement in or near London; disengaged Dec. 22. Write, this week, MEZZO-SOPRANO, c/o Wynn, 223, Heath-rd., Ashton-in-Makerfield, near Wigan, Lancs.

WANTED Known, Paymaster-Lieutenant, R.N.R., recently demobilised; good baritone; concert engagements, &c. Agents and others write REGINALD OLLEY, 26, Lynmouth-road, Stamford Hill, N. 16.

WANTED, by Bass, Baritone; experienced; deep, powerful voice; excellent in harmony part for quartette, duet work. Box 82, "The Era."

WANTED Known, ERIC C. PAGE, junr., Dis. now, Leads, Juvs., &c., special weeks. Re-engaged Spring by E. E. Norris, Esq. 70, Rumford-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED Known, Two Gents. vacant for first-class Act; good pianist, vocalists, buck, wing, and schottische.

Write Box 57, "The Era."

WANTED Known.—To Agents, the TWO GEMS (Emeralds), to-night, 8.30 at Bonnington Hotel, Southampton-row; also Dec. 25, 31, and Jan. 7. The Nells Orchestra will play during dinner on Christmas Day. Vacant dates, 23, Marlborough-hill, St. John's Wood.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED

WANTED, good dashing Comedienne; capable of Prin. Boy; Scotch Comedian, Trio of Dancers, 12 Chorus Ladies and Artists all lines; rehearse Friday; open Boxing Day; 20 weeks' tour. Photos., refs., and lowest terms, E. ANNESLEY, Palace, Clifton-road, Lossiemouth, N.B.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED

WANTED, good Demon King, baritone; rehearse immediately. Wire terms, OSMOND, Opera House, Coventry. Will Syd Meyers explain?

WANTED, for Panto., Comedian, Gymnast, Knockabout, gags, &c. State particulars. Letters only. Address, WILSON, 27, Devonshire-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Speciality Toe Dancer, also Actor-Vocalist for Demon, for small Panto. Wire lowest, rehearse at once, STANTO, Palladium, Littlehampton.

OSMOND & PALFREYMAN'S
"DICK WHITTINGTON."

WANTED, Chorus Ladies; rehearse Opera House, Coventry, immediately; must be young and experienced.
Wire terms, height,
OSMOND,
Opera House, Coventry.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known,
DENBY and DENT,
Comedians,
still free for Pantomime.
Wire,
43, Ackers-street,
Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED Known,
H. O. WILLS
Vacant for Panto.

107, Peter-street, Blackpool.

CINEMA EMPLOYMENT.

WANTED Known, Positions waiting for Cinema Staff and Orchestras. Beginners wanted for Operating, Film Acting, and Pianoforte playing to Pictures. For the convenience of our clients we are opening for two hours on Saturday morning, Dec. 27. THE CINEMA EMPLOYMENT BUREAU, 18, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants, Halls, Theatres, Concerts. Write (stamp), call, afternoons, MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W.

WANTED, Amateurs, Beginners. Splendid opportunity for entering the profession. 200 successful clients appearing. MR. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Amateur (lady or gent.), to join another, just starting; must have some ability. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Aspirants wishing to be Music Hall, Theatre, Cinema Stars, Film Plot Writers, &c., write to ME for Expert Advice and Information (personal or postal). I can teach them, write them star songs, &c., arrange engagements, provide everything. I am the most experienced teacher. Recommended by Reg. Wentworth, Joe Archer, and other stars. See "Stage" advt. Singing, dancing, ventriloquism, &c., taught. Those wanting trial turn, where agent will see and book them if suitable, write, Stage Guide, 1s. Band books sold, melodies composed, band parts arranged, acts, sketches, &c., produced. Stamp for reply. HERBERT COLE (Artist), 39, Burton-road, Brixton, London, S.W. 9. Concerts or known artists provided and managed.

WANTED, ladies and gentlemen about to enter the Theatrical and Variety Profession, consult FRANK PERRY. Interview, advice free. Stage dancing taught, all styles. Hours, 11 to 8. FRANK PERRY & ROBSON, 201a, High Holborn, W.C.

WANTED Known, Dancing. Let me teach you to dance in my West-End Studio by up-to-date methods; good teachers; strictly moderate terms. Full particulars from KABY, 22, Bushey Hill-road, London, S.E. 5.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Stage Manager. State age, experience, and send copies of references. D. J. CLARKE, Argyle, Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.

WANTED Known, MR. E. GRAHAM-FALCON thanks the numerous gentlemen who replied for management of the above, and wishes to inform them that arrangements are complete.

WANTED, Electrician - Operator, for Seaside Entertainment Place. Permanency to good man with thorough knowledge as Stage Electrician for big shows, but must be fully qualified Operator as Pictures only are run in the winter. Commence Dec. 29.
Apply, with full particulars and salary required, to MANAGER, Tower, Morecambe.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, for big Production; must be keen and strict. Refs., terms, &c., JOE PETERMAN, 17, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistresses, for resident pantomimes; provinces; also for first-class musical play on tour.
Apply immediately to
MORETON & HEATH, 7-8, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, for Pantomime tour; month first town. Apply immediately, NEVILLE GRAHAM, 63, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Property Man, for first-class touring production. Apply at once, WILLIAM HENSHALL, Cranbourne-chambers, Leicester-square Station.

WANTED, Touring, a Man to make himself generally useful; able to paint scenery. Send full particulars, experience, references, salary, to E. DOTTRIDGE, "Merivale," Clifton Drive South, St. Anne's-on-Sea.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, to touch up; good colourist, for 2½ weeks; commence at once. Send lowest terms to PERCY FRANKS, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Leetes' hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue. A. LEETE & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED, very small
COLOURED BOY OR INDIAN.
Over 14 years. Experience unnecessary. Write or call, J. MEUX,
25, Clarendon-road, London, W. 11.

WANTED, Situation, Res., Variety, Stage Manager and Electrician Operator, combined if necessary; age 30; abstainer; experienced; demobbed. S. M., 7, Chester-st., Kennington, S.E. 11.

WANTED Known, BERT J. YARD at liberty for Stage Management, Carpenter (Mechanic); M. H. or Theatre. If you are needing a practical man, my address is,
6, Oakfield-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, engagement as Manager or Assistant Manager, resident (preferred) or touring, by experienced young gentleman; excellent references and appearance; 4½ years' Army. Box 66, "The Era."

WANTED, Part or Whole-time Employment (lady), Clerk, Cashier, &c., Theatre, Music Hall, Cinema. T., 28, Church-rd., Hanwell, W. 7.

PRESERVE YOUR MUSIC—PUT IT IN A "MAURIENA" COVER.

MUSIC — THIS WEEK'S NOVELTIES. — PIENA

"AMOUR PERDU," by CERUS—'Cello Solo.
F.O. 1/6; S.O. 1/3; P.C. 6d.; H.P. 3d.
"PROMENADE AMOUREUSE," by FAUCHEY.
"ESCAPADE," by MOUTON.
F.O. 1/6; Quintet, 1/2; P.C. 6d.; H.P. 3d. each.
FOR SAMPLE PARCEL SEND 2/6. STATE COMBINATION REQUIRED.
OBTAINABLE FROM
MESSRS. CRANE & SONS, Ltd., LIVERPOOL.....ST. HELENS and BELFAST.....
GOLDMAN, SOUTH SHIELDS.....3, CARLISLE TERRACE, BRADFORD,.....AND
PIENA 3 BIRCHINGTON ROAD, KILBURN, N.W.6. MUSIC
TELEPHONE: HAMPSTEAD 7246.

USE A "MAURIENA" COVER, AND DOUBLE THE LIFE OF YOUR MUSIC.
PRICES:—Small size, 3d. each; 2/9 per dozen. Large size, 5d. each; 4/6 per dozen. Large quantities by arrangement.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engt., Props, Baggage; 15 years' touring exp.; first-class refs. and done my bit; and keep scenery and props in good repair; and take an interest in my work. Bogus managers beware. Just been stranded by one. Can open at once; mod. sal. Wire, WHITE, 15, George-street, St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

WANTED, by demobbed experienced Electrician-Operator, Situation, Assistant Man., Stage Man., or Electrician-Operator. Wire, 65, Woodhead-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, by experienced Doorman-Biller-Handyman; can open immediately anywhere. Salary £2. NASH, 6, Hepburn-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by OWEN SMALL, Scenic Artist, 38, 8th. Constitution-st., Aberdeen; distance no object. Write or call at above address.

WANTED, Engt. by George Hart, Scenic Artist, contract or otherwise. Reply, 23, Canterbury-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, Contracts or Engt., Tour, &c.; London work pref.; just finishing entire Surrey Theatre production; first-class touching-up, repainting. Studio, Surrey Theatre, London. Apply, DAN BARKER, 85, Brandon-street, London, S.E. 17.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director-Conductor (play piano rehearsals); arrange, write if required; rehearse immediately; show opens Monday. VERNON, Hippodrome, Leeds.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Leader-Violinist, for First-class Cinema Work, also good First Cornet for Variety Work; A.M.U. terms. ALFRED DEL MONTE'S AGENCY, Unity Buildings, 22, Lord-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Deputy, as Leader, 5 weeks; Theatre Engt.; easy, comfortable job; every convenience; starting next Monday; salary from £2 8s. to £2 16s. VIOLINISTE, 62, Bellevue-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, Violinist-Leader for Trio, open Monday; must have good library; 6 evenings, 2 mats. State terms. CANNING TOWN CINEMA, 317, Barking-rd., E. 13.

WANTED, to commence December 22, absolutely first-class 1st Violinist for high-class Cinema work; A.M.U. man preferred; Union terms; matinée every day and 1 show nightly. Apply, with references, &c., to REGINALD YORKE, Olympia Picture Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, First Violin, Pic. and Variety; continuous, 3-10.30; good sight reader. Terms to MUS. DIR., Regent Theatre, Chelmsford.

WANTED, immediately, at the Globe Electric Theatre, 59/61, Old Kent-road, S.E., 1st Violin (Leader), Rep. and Orchestral Pianist; good readers essential; audition required. Apply, any afternoon this week, to the MUS. DIR., between 2.30 and 4.30. Good wages to good performers.

WANTED, for about four weeks commencing Boxing Day, good First Violin. Apply, THE MANAGER, Theatre, Windsor.

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WANTED, Violin Conductor; must be first-class solo; matinée and evening performances. E. HOUNSELL, 30, John Bright-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, first-class Pianist-Conductor; must be able to arrange and compose; open at once. BILLBOARD, Temperance Hall Tredegar, Monmouth.

WANTED, Repetiteur, lady, for quartette. Send terms, MANAGER, Kursaal, Harrogate.

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WANTED immediately, several Repetiteur Violinists, for London districts; also competent Leader; hours from 5 to 10.30. Apply, with instrument, Thursday morning next, between 10 and 12, at 157, Wardour-street, W. 1.

WANTED, Repet. (capable of leading when required), String Bass, Solo Cornet; £3 5s.; 12 evening shows one mat. BELLERBY, King's T., Newcastle, Staffs.

WANTED at once, Violin Leader, for Pictures; must be experienced; orchestra of five. Wages and refs. to Empire Cinema, Staines.

WANTED, Leader (Gentleman); 20 miles from London; hours, 3 to 5, and 6.30 to 10 p.m.; 6 days. Apply immediately, with instrument. ZELBA, Musical Director, 67, Newman-street, W. 1.

WANTED, for Theatre Cinema, Leader, Rep., 'Cello, Bass, Piano, Clarinet, Drums (Gentlemen), for London; one day off. Apply, MUS. DIR., 42, Essendine-mansions, Maida Hill.

WANTED, Leader, with library, small Cinema, S.E. district; six days; no Sunday. Box 83, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, First-class Leader-Violinist.
Write, MUS. DIR., 28, Plympton-road, Brondesbury, N.W. 6.

PALACE THEATRE,
ALDERSHOT.

WANTED, really First-class Leader, to commence about Dec. 30; comfy job to right man; only thorough musicians need apply. Will Chas. Hoggard write in, please. Also required, 1st Violin and 'Cello. Apply, W. HENRY HARPER, Musical Director.

WANTED, Musician Attendants, for the County Asylum, Whittingham, Preston, Lancs., First Violin, Viola, Solo Cornet, and Tenor Slide Trombone; preference to Army men; wages commencing at £60 a year, rising by annual increments of £6 to £100, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. If married and living outside, an allowance of £61 a year is allowed in lieu of board, lodging and washing, and £3 a year extra is given as Band Pay. Appointments are subject to a deduction under the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act. For form of application apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, good, first-class Violin; thoroughly experienced in high-class varieties; A.M.U.; permanency. Age, refs., &c., CONDUCTOR, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

WANTED, Violiniste (lady) for evenings, cinema, near London; no Sundays. State salary and experience. 92a, North View-rd., Hornsey, N.

WANTED, competent Violinist, used to Pictures and Variety; 6 nights, 1 matinée. Apply, MANAGER, The Alhambra, Penrith, Cumberland.

WANTED, Violiniste, 'Celliste, and Pianiste (ladies), for West End hotel; Christmas and Boxing Day; exp. dancing; good terms. Box 73, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Musicians, Violinists, 'Cellists, and Pianists; high-class London café.
Apply, Box 581, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, good Violinist, gent., for Trio, Pictures, 3 permanency; salary £4 weekly. THOMPSON, Cinema Royal, Redhill.

WANTED, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianist for Dec. 25, 6 to 10 p.m., Cinema. GRAY, 19, Cecile Park, Crouch End, N. 8.

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists for the Brighton Grand Orchestra, to open Dec. 29, particularly Violin, Tymps, and 'Cello.
Good salaries for the right men.
Apply, with refs. and full particulars, to MR. JAMES SALE, Musical Director, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, First-class Violinist. Apply, SEGURA, Blue Halls, Hammersmith.

WANTED, to open Dec. 22, thoroughly experienced Violinist, for once-nightly Pictures and Varieties; 8 to 10.30; A.M.U. terms. Apply, with refs., to M. D., Electric Theatre, Falkirk.

WANTED at once, Lady or Gentleman Violinist.
194, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Two Horns, Second Clarinet, 'Cello, Bass, First Violin, for seven weeks' Pantomime engagement. Apply at once to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Coliseum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Double Bass, Pic. and Var.; continuous, 3-10.30; good sight reader. Terms to MUS. DIR., Regent Theatre, Chelmsford.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady or Gent. Cornet Player for Tour; not soloist. State lowest terms and height. Address, C. NEWSTEAD, 5, Outgate Bank, Huddersfield.

WANTED, a First-class
Solo Cornet,
to open Monday next,
for the Finest Orchestra in the North of England. State qualifications, salary, &c., in first letter to
MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
King's Theatre,
Sunderland.

SOLO CORNET.

WANTED, to open Monday next, Dec. 22, THE FINEST CORNET SOLOIST IN GREAT BRITAIN. Must be a really first-class musician, to suit the finest orchestra in the North of England; twice nightly, no matinées. Send full particulars, age, references, and terms to
RESIDENT MANAGER,
King's Theatre,
Sunderland.

WANTED, Double Bass Player and 2 'Cellists, experienced in good-class cinema work; 22½ hours weekly; no Sundays; A.M.U. terms. All particulars to BURGOYNE, Musical Director, Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, Scotland.

WANTED, E flat Bass, 6 weeks, for Rink; North London. MADDISON, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, good D. Bass and Drums, Tymps., and effects; must be experienced in Variety; A.M.U.; terms £2 16s.; open Monday next.
Particulars to T. HULLEY, M.D., Hippodrome, Warrington.

WANTED, a good Double Bass Player who can play Bassoon (when required), for Opera, Musical Comedy, &c.; A.M.U. terms; perm eng. HORACE TEAGUE, Musical Director, Opera House, Cheltenham.

Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, for the above, to open Dec. 24, Double Bass (experienced); A.M.U. Terms and refs., TAYLOR, Victoria Cottage, Friarhill, Accrington.

ANGEL KINEMA, ISLINGTON.
Mus. Dir., Arthur W. Owen.

WANTED, First-class Bassoon (flat pitch), open Monday next (permanent).

WANTED, 'Cellist (lady), for Cinema, S.E. district; a day off a week. Apply, "Elmwood," Atkins-road, Clapham Park. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

WANTED, Lady 'Celliste for Café Trio, 5 hours daily; no Sundays; permanency. Write, terms, age, experience, &c., to VIOLINISTE, 111, Orchard-road, Southsea.

WANTED, 'Cellist, used to high-class cinema work and 'Cello solos.
NELSON,
Picture House, Stafford.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to open at once, twice nightly. Apply, stating age, terms, references, to W. J. ANDREWS, General Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, 'Cellist for Cinema, evenings only.
Apply, after 3 o'clock, "CAICEDO," Empress Cinema, Upper-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist. Apply, SEGURA, Blue Halls, Hammersmith.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, lady or gent., evenings only. Call, with instrument, after 6 p.m., at POPLAR PAVILION, near Poplar Station.

WANTED, Wanted,
Hotels, Hotels, Hotels.
Two First-class 'Cellists (town); one to commence immediately.
Quartette, ladies or gentlemen (South).
Trio, ladies or gentlemen (North).
Musicians not known to me apply at once, with instrument, for audition. ZELBA, Musical Director, 67, Newman-street, Oxford-street, W. No commission charged on these engagements.

WANTED, a good 'Cellist for Cinema, from 3 o'clock; good money to right man. Apply personally, M. D., 2, Bedford-street, Stepney, E. 1.

WANTED, 'Cellist, Leader, and Drummer; A.M.U. terms; comfortable permanency. References to T. GRAFTON-TOTTEM, M. D., Empire, Rotherham.

WANTED, a 'Cellist, gentleman; steady and reliable; must be a good player; also a youth, Violinist, for London engagement, no Sundays. Apply, Box 78, "The Era."

WANTED, for Christmas Week, Dec. 22 to 28 (no performance Christmas Day, for Orchestral Concerts, 'Cellist, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horns, and D. Bass. Particulars and terms to MANAGER, Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, Deputy 'Cellist, for one week from Dec. 22; evenings; North London. ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAS, 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist £5 10s., Pianist and Organist £5 (Gents.), also Double Bass, for café. GRAY, 12, Archer-st., Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, 'Cellists and Drummers, also Lady Drummers, immediately, for high-class cinema and hotel engagements, London and seaside. Write, 'phone, or call immediately.
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Apply, CHIEF CONSTABLE (Band), Birmingham.

WANTED, Flautist, experienced in classic picture programmes; permanency to reliable musician. Apply, ROGERS, Pavilion, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, competent Mustel Organist. State experience and terms.
NELSON,
Picture House, Stafford.

WANTED, Reed Organist, deputise, Dec. 27 to 28, excluding Dec. 25. Apply, Mrs. BARRY-DENNIS, Electric Coliseum, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, first-class Mustel Organist; can open at once; good, comfortable, and permanent engagement to right man.
Write, MANAGER,
Globe Picture House, Coventry.

WANTED Known, Cinema Organist requires Deputy for Christmas Eve, Boxing Day, and Saturday. Particulars from KNIGHTS, 103, North End, West Croydon.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Gent., for Fit-up Panto.; weekly and 3 nightly towns; open at once. Wire lowest, STANTO, Palladium, Littlehampton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Organists (American organ) to complete Trio; pictures only, 6 night, 2 mats, weekly. Lowest, REYNOLDS, Royal Electric, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, first-class Musted Organist; can open at once; good, comfortable and permanent engagement to right man. Write, MANAGER, Globe Picture House, Coventry.

WANTED, Pianiste (lady), experienced, for cinema, near London; evenings only; no Sundays. State salary, 92a, North View-rd., Hornsey, N.

WANTED, first-class Gent. Pianist, to Deputise from Dec. 23 to Jan. 3; cinema (not Christmas day). Apply, 11 to 1, PALMER, 31, Talgarth-road, West Kensington, W. 14.

WANTED, immediately, good Orchestral Pianist; 6 evenings; 2 matinées weekly. Terms and particulars to CORRISON, Cinema, Truro.

WANTED, Pianists, 'Cellists, Violinists, ladies or gentlemen, for numerous hotel engagements, Christmas; seaside resorts; those with library preferred. Write, salary required, KEITH PROWSE ENTERTAINMENT DEPARTMENT, Bond-street.

WANTED, open Dec. 29, First-class Pianist; also Violinist; small orchestra; 26 hours weekly. Salary and refs., MANSELL, Palace, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Relief Pianist, soloist; one that can double Drums preferred.
NELSON,
Picture House, Stafford.

WANTED, experienced Orchestral Pianist; must be good sight reader; permanency. Send terms. M. D., Mascot Cinema, Westcliff-on-Sea.

WANTED, at once, First-class Pianist, once nightly, 1 matinée; will consider applications from pianist-violinist, joint, or two. State salary required. MANAGER, Picturedrome, Lydd, Kent.

WANTED, an excellent Harpiste, to combine Piano, for a well-known Musical Act. Full particulars to Box 53, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Lady or Gentleman DRUMMER and Orchestral HARMONIUM Player. 194, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, immediately, double Drummer; must be well experienced in Pictures; evenings only; permanent engt. Apply any morning between 10 and 1 to 123, Sandringham-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, to commence Dec. 22, Regent Pavilion, Lowestoft, Double Drummer and Tympanist; also, to commence Dec. 29, Violinist and 'Cellist. Apply, J. HADLEY, M.D., Central Cinema, Ipswich.

WANTED, Drummer, with tymps., Violinist-Repet., able to take lead, and 'Cellist, for cinema, S.E. district. Musicians not known to me, apply at once, with instrument, ZELBA, Musical Director, 67, Newman-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, a real, brilliant Trio or Quartette, gentlemen or ladies; 6 months' engagement, Aberdeen; only real first-class players need apply. Write, KEITH PROWSE, 162, New Bond-st., W.1.

WANTED, Efficient Orchestra, four to seven players, for good-class cinema near London, from 6 o'clock nightly; no Sundays. Terms and full particulars as to combination and abilities, to Box 74, "The Era."

CINEDROME CIRCUIT.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, all Instruments; high-class Pictures and Variety. State fullest particulars, with references, and salaries required, MANAGER, Cinedrome, Plymouth.

WANTED, complete Ladies' Orchestra, 12 and conductor, for summer season; Lancashire seaside town; about 18 weeks from middle May. Reply, Box 612, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engt., Pianist-Conductor (Resident), exp. all lines; compose, arrange, &c. ROLAND ALLEN, 17, Norfolk-rd., Gravesend.

WANTED Known, Violin Conductor and Leader desire change; thor. exp.; any bus.; good refs.; library; joint or separate. Offers Box 84, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., by Lady Violiniste (Repet.); thoroughly experienced. VIOLINISTE, "Luzern," Surrey-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, by lady, Engt. in hotel for Christmas; excellent repet. Violiniste; dance engagements at once. VIOLINISTE, Northbourne, Shalford, Guildford.

WANTED, Engagement as Repetiteur, in London Cinema, Hotel, or Restaurant; well exp. Box 65, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, by Violinist (Rept.), in or near London. 50, Balcombe-street, Dorset-square, N.W. 1.

WANTED, Engt. by Violinist Rep.; youth, fully experienced in first-class orch. work; cinema or café; London only. VIOLINIST, 36, Marville-road, Fulham, S.W. 6.

WANTED Known, exp. Rep. Violinist has a few vacant dates; evenings only; N., N.W., and Central districts. VIOLINIST, 67, Allison-rd., N. 8.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Leader, first-class Violiniste, disengaged shortly, good engagement in or near London. Box 85, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., by experienced Violinist (leader-soloist); after Christmas, in cinema or hotel; orchestra provided if desired; salary 6 gns.

Box 68, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., by Leader-Violinist; soloist; hotel, café, or restaurant; in or out of town. Offers, Box 76, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Leader (Violin), in or near London; fully experienced; variety, cinema, café, &c.; open Dec. 29. GOODYERE, 20, The Paddock, Chatham.

WANTED Known, Leader with good library, disengaged for Cinema, London or district; just concluded 12 months at The Camden, N.W. W. S. CUDDEFORD, 77, Kelmscott-rd., Clapham-junction, S.W. 11.

WANTED Known. Experienced Leader will be open for engagement 22nd inst., hotel or pictures; evenings preferred. Apply, VIOLINIST, 191, Hampstead-road, W. 1.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, any business; excellent credentials. Box 80, "The Era."

WANTED, engagements by experienced lady Violinist for Christmas festivities, or would deputise for evening; good fee; excellent refs.

Box 67, "The Era."

WANTED Known, good 1st or 2nd Violin; reliable Cinema, Variety; good references; London or near. THOMAS COLLIER, 17, Denny-st., Kennington Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Engt., experienced Lady Violiniste; café, cinema; good sight reader; at liberty Dec. 29. Offers and particulars, EDITH L. MAINWOOD, G.S.M., 27a, Ravenstone-st., Balham, S.W. 12.

WANTED, by Brilliant Violinist (or bâton) and Pianiste, Australasian Tour; would accept band duties, Australian Liner; excellent library music. Box 25, "The Era."

WANTED, Sunday evening Engt. by Violinist, 'Celliste, Pianiste; London or suburbs. MUSICIAN, 8, Burnthwaite-road, S.W. 6.

WANTED Known, Violinist, good tone, any bus.; near preferred. State terms. SYDNEY HOUSE, Clarence-st., Dartmouth.

WANTED, Engt., by thor. exp. Violinist; at lib. Dec. 22; café or cinema; London only. MISS JESSIE RADFORD, 92, Bromley-road, Catford, S.E. 6.

WANTED Known, can be heard daily. Solo Violinist, in high-class cinema; expert fitting pictures, desires change; good offers only. Box 77, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., by experienced French Horn; any business. Address, HORN, 46, Ifield-rd., Fulham-rd., S.W. 10.

WANTED, Engt. as Second French Horn, for Pantomime season, Varieties, or Theatre; thor. exp., reliable, steady; good references; high or flat pitch; A.M.U. J. W. ROBERTS, 34, Regent-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engt., Clarinet; experienced Theatre, Variety; any bus.; at liberty now; A.M.U. CLARINET, 9, Talbot-street, Wright-street, Hull.

WANTED Known, Clariettist, at lib. Dec. 27; sharp or flat pitch. GEO. SINCLAIR, Charsley Opera Co., Huddersfield.

WANTED Known, reliable Double Bass (lady), desiring change, vacant Dec. 29; experienced any business. Box 70, "The Era."

WANTED, Christmas Engt. by exp. Double Bass; hotel or panto. LIDBETTER, 4, Holland-house, Holland-road, N.W. 10.

WANTED, Engt., by Double Bass, London; thor. exp.; any bus. BASSO, 51, Waveney-avenue, Peckham Rye.

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WANTED, Engt. by Trombone; any bus. Address, H. ROBINSON, 50, Old Town, Bideford, N. Devon.

WANTED, engagement, lady 'Celliste; disengaged Dec. 18; experienced orchestral or dance work. MISS PULMAN, 24, Manchester-street, W.

WANTED, Engt. by 'Celliste, experienced, London or district. 'CELLISTE, 135, Finborough-rd., S.W. 10.

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WANTED Known, 'Cello, experienced, with good library, wishes to join Violin and Piano, to work up a good Trio. Letters only. DAVIS, 50, Russell-square, W.C. 1.

WANTED, Engt. by 'Cellist, exp.; just demobbed; cinema or dance hall; good tone. Apply, E. J. H., 31a Brightwell-crescent, S.W. 17.

WANTED, Engt. in London or near, by well-known 'Cellist; high-class cinema, &c. Terms, in first instance, to STUART, 66, Lower-rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED, Engt., by 'Cellist; experience in pic., var.; good refs. G. 12, Winchelsea-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged; good tone; cinema preferred; no Sundays. HAROLD NELSON, 37, Howley-place, Paddington, W. 2.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, Dance Engts.; open for deputy; can double with banjoline. ROGER, 38, Clipstone-street, W. 1.

WANTED Known, Viola, disengaged; symphony and theatre exp.; good refs.; A.M.U. VIOLA, 9, Franklin-mount, Harrogate.

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WANTED, by good Flautist and Pic., Engt.; any bus.; also Organist; at liberty; both can open Monday after Christmas; with musicians only. FLAUTIST, 58, Park-street, Lincoln.

WANTED, Engt., London suburbs, Flute (Gentleman Flautist), Pantomime, Cinema, &c.; with D'Oyly Carte, &c. FLAUTIST, 6, South-mansions, Gondar-gardens, N.W. 6.

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Owing to the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, the issue of "THE ERA" appearing in Christmas week will be published on

TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23,

instead of on the Wednesday, as usual.

All copy for Advertisements intended for that issue should reach us not later than

NOON on MONDAY, DECEMBER 22,

to ensure insertion. Advertisements reaching us after this time will be held over and inserted in our Pantomime Double Number, to be published on DECEMBER 31.

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Notice to the Profession.

OWING to Mr. F. GREEN having disposed of the above Theatre as from January 12th, 1920, Artists' Contracts subsequent to this date have been CANCELLED, due intimation of which has been given.
The Theatre will be re-opened by Mr. A. HOOLEY as a Cinema Theatre.

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PALACE THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
EMPIRE THEATRE, PRESTON.

(Proprietors - - - The Manchester Palace of Varieties, Ltd.)

Notice to the Profession.

ALL communications as to engagements at the above Theatres:—
for **The Palace Theatre, Manchester, for dates subsequent to 3rd July, 1922,**
for **The Empire Theatre, Preston, for dates subsequent to 26th April, 1920,**
should be made to **Moss Empires Ltd., Cranbourn Mansions, Cranbourn Street, London, W.C. 1.**

For engagements **prior** to these dates, applications should be made to:—**The Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd.,** 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C. 2.

All other communications to ALAN W. YOUNG, General Manager, Palace Theatre, Manchester.

For the Directors,
PETER WATSON, *Chairman.*

Manchester, 8th December, 1919.

THEATRES WANTED.

=WANTED,=

Monday next and after, with exceptions.

Monday next and after, with exceptions.

Monday next and after, with exceptions.

CAPT. J. B.

STEVENSON-PAYNE'S

Colossal Production.

THE MONS STAR COMPANY.

IN

A Revusical Comedy,

RISE AND SHINE.

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In Three Scenes.

Last Scene,
Louis XIV Setting and Costumes.
Produced by Reginald Palmer.
Clean, Clever Comedy.
One continuous Roar of Laughter.
An All-War Production, and the Only One of Its Kind Booked for Paris.

CAST FEATURING:

VAL LIND, the Royal Command Performer, of London, Paris, New York;

HARRY DAUNT (late Alfred Butt and Geo. Edwardes, Geo. Dance);

BERT CRAWFURD;

TOM ROYDAN (late Oswald Grey);

DENNIS RAY (late Geo. Edwardes);

DOLLY, of the Spades;

CHAS. TEMPEST, the Dame (7 years Moss Empires).

STUDY CAST — THEN WIRE.

Every Member an Artist and a Soldier.

Curtain to Curtain, 1 hour 50 mins.

Ideal for Twice Nightly.

Costumes and Wigs by Willie Clarkson.

Musical Director,
Gilbert Asellick, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

All coms.:—

J. B. STEVENSON-PAYNE.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, MANCHESTER.

THEATRICAL AGENCIES.

CASES CONSIDERED BY THE L.C.C. PUBLIC CONTROL COMMITTEE.

The adjourned sitting of the L.C.C. Public Control Committee to deal with licences of employment agencies took place last Friday. There were only a few cases to be dealt with, but the Committee investigated matters so exhaustively that the proceedings extended over about four hours.

In connection with this adjourned meeting, and that originally held a week previously, the great feature was an inquiry respecting two incidents of indecency, and in view of allegations made recently in the Press about immorality in connection with things theatrical, it is noteworthy to report that the Committee decided in these two cases that there were no grounds whatever for the complaints that had been made, and the licences were renewed.

An Actors' Association Case.

The renewal of a licence was opposed by the Actors' Association, but the Committee renewed the licence, finding that there were no grounds for the allegations made against the gentleman.

On behalf of the Actors' Association, it was mentioned that the licence was opposed because the Association felt that the matter should be investigated.

Sir Geo. B. Piggott, the chairman of the Committee, remarked that the Association was justified in taking up the case so that it could be thoroughly investigated, adding that the fact that the Committee renewed the licence indicated that there was no evidence to support the case for the opposition.

PROPOSED LICENSING OF MANAGERS.

The Lord Chamberlain received a deputation on the 9th inst. asking that managers of touring revues should be licensed. The deputation was headed by the Bishop of London, and included Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, Messrs. N. McKinnel, A. Lugg, and T. Goddard (Actors' Association); Henry Arthur Jones, A. Shirley, G. H. Thring (Society of Authors); S. R. Littlewood (Critics' Circle); and A. J. Allen, A. R. Moro (London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality).

The Lord Chamberlain said that with the object they had in view, as stated to him, all must sympathise, and that was his position—in regard to some matters mentioned they were not new to him, and had previously interested him and engaged his attention. The Lord Chamberlain, so far as his opinion was of value, said he thought that legislation would be necessary, and that it might not be without its difficulties. Should the Bishop of London think well to introduce a Bill into the House of Lords, he had little doubt that careful and sympathetic consideration would be given to it. But, of course, the Bishop and deputation would readily understand the Lord Chamberlain could not now speak for the Government, or promise his support till he had seen the Bill.

"TOM THUMB" AT GLASGOW.

Mr. Rich. Waldon on Saturday superintended the launching of the 40th pantomime at the Royal Princess's Theatre, and was once again in the happy position of being able to thank the audience at the end of the performance for having so unanimously shown their appreciation of his latest effort.

Mr. Waldon has again written the book, and breaking away, as of old, from hackneyed subjects, has ingeniously interwoven the story of "Tom Thumb" with that of the "Old Woman who lived in a Shoe."

The pantomime is in two parts, and comprises ten scenes, from the opening village scene, showing the home of the Old Woman, who, on account of the prevailing scarcity of housing accommodation, was compelled to live in a shoe, to the concluding scene of The Grand Staircase. For all of these, Mr. J. C. Bontor, the resident scenic artist, deserves every credit, and more particularly for a beautiful set, the Land of Poppies and Lilies, which concludes the first half of the pantomime.

In the selection of his principals, Mr. Waldon has again been most successful. Miss Mabel Marks is a dashing Tom Thumb, with a taking style, and as a singer and dancer at once made a hit. She was happiest in "If You're Irish, Come into the Parlour," which she gave with great effect, ably assisted by a crowd of clever little girls. Miss Dolly Veuton as Poppy Wildrose, the principal girl, for she is absolutely bubbling over with energy, and untiring in her efforts in every scene, song, dance, or bit of business. Her most decided successes were "Mammy o' Mine" and "Mandy and Me." The second boy and girl parts are played by Misses Sylvia and Elaine Rosslyn, who act well together, or with the other characters, and were heartily recalled for their vocal items "Till We Meet Again" and "When Love Peeps in the Window." For the part of Fairy Beeswing, a popular choice is made in Miss Maggie Fraser, who makes a most engaging Fairy, acting well and giving point to all her lines, while her song, "Little Home for Two," was one of the hits of the evening. Mr. Waldon never fails to provide local interest by securing Scotch talent, and he has made a double success this year, in securing Miss Stella French and Miss Irene Allison. Both are adepts at our local patois, and are artists of distinct promise. Miss French, as a maid-of-all-work, is charmingly pert and full of fun. Her songs "Sandy McKay" and another with bagpipe selections in front, and her neat dancing made her a prime favourite. Miss Irene Allison is a clever and effective ragamuffin, and fairly brought down the house with her song "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine."

For the leading comedy part, Mr. Len Jackson, as Rufus, is afforded ample scope and proves himself a resourceful artist, with a wealth of funny mannerisms. He gives proof of his talent in the Beauty Parlour and Telephone Exchange scenes particularly, and works hard all through.

Messrs. P. Gare and Jimmy Caffns give excellent support as Dilly and Dally, and being local, introduce a lot of funny patter and business that is well received. Mr. George Dix is a smart and lively Dame Trot, and renders invaluable help in the fun-making. Mr. W. S. Palmer plays the wily Baron with a dramatic fervour that is amusing. Messrs. Sam Moore and George Ritchie, as the Baron's minions, assist him in all his nefarious schemes, and ably help in the knockabout work.

The Six Model Mails, established favourites here, are adepts at ragtime songs and dances, and we must also include in this commendation the Ten Kute Kids trained by Madame Victor.

Mr. Robert McLeod has selected and arranged the music, which as in previous years includes some operatic gems. Mr. Harry McKelvie assists Mr. Waldon in the onerous work of production, and Messrs. Millard Shevlin and George Dix are the stage managers.

The pantomime played without a hitch on the opening night.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT EDINBURGH THEATRE ROYAL.

The dramatic insight and artistic perception of Mr. Geo. T. Minshull have been demonstrated once again by the production of the pantomime "Robinson Crusoe," at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, on Saturday evening last. The piece is a scenic triumph, Mr. Minshull's ideas having been very ably carried out by Mr. Stanley Shuter. The Realms of Neptune and the final scene, Peace and Plenty, are remarkably brilliant pictures, painted with a skill and a sense of colour which will greatly advance the reputation of the young Edinburgh artist. In a quieter style, Mr. J. Harker's Port of Leith, and Mr. T. Holmes's Crusoe's Island Home, are very effective. The pantomime throughout is well acted. The writer of the book has successfully endeavoured to blend fact with fiction. The opening scene shows the statue of Alexander Selkirk at Largs, and Mr. Ralphie Brooke, as Wee Macgregor, tells the story of the Fife sailor about whose adventurous life Defoe wove the tale of "Robinson Crusoe." Miss Lottie Collins, junr., is a charming and vivacious hero. She plays with great spirit and abandon, and sings with real expression, revealing in her acting at times a power that shows her capable of higher work. She secured undeniable success with her rendering of "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine" and "Till We Meet Again," and was enthusiastically recalled. Miss Winnie Collins as Polly McPansy is exceedingly bright and winsome. Her excellent singing and dancing were greatly admired, and the warmest applause greeted her tasteful rendering of "Peaches Down in Georgia" and "Bogey Shadow Man." Miss Lillie Soutter as the Dame, Mrs. Crusoe, proved herself to be an admirable comedienne, full of humour in all her scenes, which were acted with conspicuous ease and genial charm. The fun of the piece is strengthened by Mr. Will Fyfe as Captain Will Atkins, and the Larkum Brothers as the Mate and the Bo'sun. Mr. Fyfe played with drollery and resource. His rendering of the sketch of a festive Scotchman singing "It's New Year's Day" was a capital example of humour, happily restrained in its broader touches, and on that account, not the less successful. The Larkum Brothers gained the best effects from their parts, and the contrast in their physical appearance added to the adroitness of the acting. Burdett's sketch, "George Washington and the Cherry Tree," was amusingly done by these clever comedians. Mr. Ballard Brown, a well-known and expressive vocalist, doubled the parts of Father Neptune and the Cannibal King. His striking figure showed well in both characters, while his fine voice was displayed to advantage in the song, "Father Neptune," and other airs. Mr. Jack Hurst and Mr. Albert Felino, gave two meritorious animal studies as the Cat and the Parrot, and Mr. George Denton was a nimble Man Friday. Notable specialities were introduced by La Pia in a series of extraordinary fire dances; by Milner and Ross in expert banjo performances, and by the Twelve Manchester Mites in choruses and dances. The fall of the curtain was the signal for loud and prolonged applause, and calls for Mr. Minshull, in response to which the popular managing director came forward, and paid a glowing tribute to the staff. He said that as victory to General Haig would have been impossible without men and machinery, so the success of the pantomime to-night could not have been accomplished without the help of Mr. Stanley Shuter, Mr. Corney, who was responsible for the properties, Mr. George Rendall, the electrician, and Mr. Julien H. Wilson, who had composed the incidental music. The enthusiastic reception of the members of the cast was sufficient recognition of their loyal efforts to make the pantomime a winner.

"WHITE SLAVE'S WEDDING."

Drama, in Five Scenes, by Annette Howard and Dennis Clyde, Produced, for the First Time in London, at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, Monday, Dec. 15.

Roger Sterne ..... Morris Maud
Alfred Cole ..... Paul Ash
Dr. James Skinner ..... Dennis Clyde
Ching Loo ..... T. Stacey
Fortune Sterne ..... Olga Jefferson
Saunders ..... M. Stacey
Mrs. Drew ..... Annette Howard

"The White Slave's Wedding" was first seen on Aug. 18 at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

The authors claim that the play is founded on fact, and that the heroine is still living. In a series of startling scenes they show how cocaine plays an important factor in obtaining victims for the white-slave traffic.

Remarkable adventures attend Fortune Sterne, married to a rich man so immersed in financial deals that, through his neglect, she easily becomes the victim of a plausible scoundrel, James Cole. This man had supplied Mrs. Sterne with cocaine, and, while under the influence of the drug, persuades her to elope with him to Paris, to become another inmate of an establishment he runs in the gay city. Luckily for Fortune, a Mrs. Drew (who is living with her as a companion) discovers the plot and intervenes. Fortune has some further startling experiences, and finally there comes about the happy reunion of husband and wife.

Messrs. F. G. Kimberley and Dennis Clyde's company give a capital interpretation. Especially good was Miss Annette Howard as Mrs. Drew. The author-actor-manager (Mr. Dennis Clyde) supplied a capital portrait of the lovable Doctor. Mr. Morris Maud was admirable as the husband, Roger Sterne; and Miss Olga Jefferson deserves unqualified praise for her clever acting as Fortune Sterne. Mr. Paul Ash proved a plausible scoundrel as Alfred Cole, while Mr. M. Stacey was excellent in the small part of the Chinaman, Ching Loo. Miss M. Stacey was delightfully pert as the maid, Saunders.

CRITICS' CIRCLE AT HOME.

POPULAR ARTISTS ENTERTAINED.

Members of the Critics' Circle, their guests and their friends, gathered to the number of a hundred or so at the Adelaide Gallery on Friday for their Annual Tea-party—which, by the way, had to stop being an annual while the war was on and has only now, with departing 1919, begun to register its yearly milestone again. In accordance with the Circle's custom, some Guests of Honour were invited from among the young actors, actresses, musicians, and singers who have done specially distinguished work during the time that has elapsed since the last "party." Misses Sybil Thorndike, Meggie Albanesi, Joyce Carey, Emily Brooke, Hazel Jones, Alice Bowes, and Marjorie Campbell; Messrs. Brember Wills and Cowley Wright, belonging to the Drama; Miss Dorothy Howell, representing the New British School of composers; Misses Nellie Briercliffe and Marie Burke, and Messrs. Tom Burke, Herbert Langley, and Derek Oldham, of the "grand" and "light" operatic stages, were the chosen few. They, after being received by the President, Mr. G. E. Morrison and Mrs. Morrison, were, with the aid of Mr. S. R. Littlewood and Mr. E. F. Spence, distributed with the strictest impartiality to shed the light of their presence upon the other guests clustered round about the tea-tables.

Some of the honoured ones honoured the occasion with a short programme of music, among them, Miss Marie Burke, who sang "Tosca's Prayer" with dramatic intensity, and Miss Dorothy Howell, who had to battle with a refractory pianopedal while playing a charming little piece of her own.

In a happy "speech" the President took the opportunity to welcome back the Circle's returned active-service members: Major Philip Carr, Major Ashley Dukes, Capt. E. T. Elias, Lieut. St. John Ervine, and Mr. H. J. Henley. In diplomatic conclusion he hoped that the "party" and subsequent "parties" would, like those in years gone by, foster "friendly but independent" relations between critics and criticised.

Newspaper's Diamond Jubilee.

With last week's issue, the popular Catholic newspaper, the "Universe," entered upon its sixtieth year of continuous publication. The front page contains appreciative messages from dignitaries of the Church, and the presentation plate of the distinguished Belgian prelate, Cardinal Mercier, is artistically executed.

Wallé Spinner and Stella Gladwynne are concluding an eight week tour of the Garrison Theatres with Mr. Frank Bertram on Dec. 20. Mr. Spinner is playing light comedy in "The Sailor's Wedding" and character in "The Western Girl." Miss Gladwynne is the leading lady with both shows.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND FESTIVAL.

THE FIRST LADIES' NIGHT.

A RECORD YEAR.

The curtain rang up once again, after five years, on the annual festival of the Actors' Benevolent Fund on Sunday, when a rare gathering of leading actors and actresses assembled at the Savoy Hotel to honour the event. The appointment of Lady Wyndham as president of the fund, in succession to her talented husband, was made the occasion for the invitation of ladies, and the innovation was thoroughly justified, for, in addition to the brightness which the presence of the fair sex brought to the scene, the result of the subscription list marked a record in the fund's collections.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier occupied the chair, and included among those present were Lady Wyndham, Lady Alexander, Lord Wimborne, Dame May Whitty, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Maurice Brett, Mr. James Carew, Miss Joyce Carey, Miss Fay Compton, Miss Gladys Cooper, Capt. Buckmaster, Lady Diana Cooper, Mr Frank Curzon, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mlle. Delysia, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Lord Ednam, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond, Mr. George Graves, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss Gertrude Jennings, Mrs. Kendal, Miss Beatrice Lillie, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. and Mrs. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Dawson Milward, Miss Phyllis Monkman, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Parsons, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Lord Portarlington, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Prinsep, Mr. Vivian Reynolds, Miss Carrie Tubb, Mr. Henry Vibart, Miss Doris Lytton, Miss Mabel Russell, Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. F. J. Arlton, Mr. James Carew, Mr. Bannister Howard, Mr. Cecil Barth, Mr. A. B. Tapping, Mr. C. I. Coltson (secretary), Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary of the Royal General Theatrical Fund), and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart (secretary of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund).

The Toasts Honoured.

Mr. du Maurier proposed the toast of "The King," and afterwards gave that of "The Prince of Wales," a toast which, he said, had never been given before at that banquet. The Prince was likely to do more for the country than anyone else he could think of at the present moment.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, while those present sang "For he's a jolly good fellow."

Mr. Du Maurier, proposing the toast of "The Actors' Benevolent Fund," said he only intended to make a few casual remarks, which would be replied to by the president, Lady Wyndham.

"A month or two ago," he said, "it was suggested that the twenty-fourth annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund should be held. Mr. Coltson suggested that I should take the chair, and I promised I would if they could get no one else. He suggested I should raise a lot of money, and I said I would try. Then Lady Wyndham and I met, and it is to Lady Wyndham chiefly that you owe the idea of having ladies here to-night. (Hear, hear.) We all wrote then to several of the ladies of the profession, and asked them each to take a table. We were told we were not entertaining nowadays, but we danced in the middle of the room; so we found this room, and I must thank Miss Gladys Cooper, who rang me up, and said, 'Why not engage the Southern Syncopated Orchestra?' In the old days there was a long table at the top and several tables round the room, and nothing but men. I do not think in those old days before the war that we realised the value of women, and it is to the women of the profession that we owe the position in which we are at this moment. We won the war through the women. (Cheers.)

Dignity Gone by the Board.

"I was told, too, that it was not very dignified to have a dance and not to have speeches for the drama, the Press, &c., and speeches in reply. Well, dignity has rather gone by the board in the last few years. In the old days people got up and made speeches. They were managers, and were kow-towed to at the stage doors, and called 'Sir.' Then they were suddenly bundled off, and found themselves on a parade ground, with the compassionate face of a sergeant not some way off, but very close to you, saying, 'Say, you with the funny name—(laughter)—who do you think you are? Do you call that forming fours? Hold your chin up, and don't talk to me.' (Laughter.) Hour after hour on parade, being told off until one cried inside, but never outside, for weeks and weeks at a time without doing any real soldiering. That was in England. Then at the end of that time, when the thing was over, you want to meet that sergeant whom you loathed with a deadly loathing, and you grip him by the hand, and say, 'Good-bye, old man,' and give him all your boots and cigarettes. (Laughter.) Then you meet him in the street when you are back at your old job, manager of a theatre, and when he is still at his, and say, 'Will you have a drink?' and he says, 'Yessir.' (Laughter.) And you ask him, 'Will you give me half-a-crown for the Actors' Benevolent Fund?' And he says, 'No, sir; I will give you five shillings.' (Cheers.)

Actors' Services to Charity.

"Actors have given their services," continued Mr. du Maurier, "before the war, during the war, and after the war to the cause of charity. Perhaps this is not quite the right moment to talk about it, but some people say when you have given your services to a charity you ought to give 5 per cent. to one's own charity. I shall strongly oppose that. Give all or give nothing. Give, give all the time. Lots of people disagree with me in a friendly way. This arose rather from a conversation I had with a charming and beautiful lady whom I asked for a cheque for the Actors' Benevolent Fund. She said, 'Why?' I said, 'My profession have given a lot during the war in the way of getting up things and giving services.' She said, 'But you get all the kudos.' It is not done for kudos, believe me. It is done to help. If I may use an old saying, 'Something attempted, something done,' not to earn a night's repose, but to earn somebody else a night's repose. It has been proved to-night, in spite of what has so often been said, that you can't get actors and actresses to act together. We are told we are always saying things about one another. We may, but like a family, like children do. We are a very large family. At least, I love all my family, whether they love me or not."

The Roll Call.

"I am going to prove that by calling the roll," said Mr. du Maurier, "and I shall ask them to answer me and say that they will do what they can for all charities."

Mr. du Maurier then called the roll in military style, "Gladys," "Fay," "Margaret," "Mabel," "Alice," "Violet," "Tony," "Harry," and a number of others. The replies varied from "Yes, sir," to "Yes, sergeant," and "Yes, Gerald."

"That shows we are a large family," continued the Chairman. "We take ourselves very seriously, and it shows that when we are called upon to do anything we can do it, and I think we can call on outsiders to help us. I should like to read a letter sent not to me, but to our secretary."

Mr. du Maurier then read a letter which had been sent to Mr. Coltson by a lady, enclosing a cheque, saying she wished she could have been present at the dinner. The letter was as follows:—

"The public are apt to forget that the players they watch upon the stage are final personalities, and that they live a whole life away from the theatre where sun and shadow, care and worry beset them just as they do the rest of mankind. With indomitable pluck the members of a proud profession present to their audiences unfailing gaiety and nerve, and keep up unflagging an intellectual activity such as few folk have the faintest conception of. I wish more people would remember this, and would realise that when a familiar face and personality ceases to be seen on the boards, it is just possible that failing health, suffering, and the coming to old age are responsible for the disappearance. Surely these, the givers of so much happiness, these who bring light into so many dark hours, the notoriously unselfish givers in this world, should not be forgotten in the autumn of their days. There used to be magic in the days around Christmas; may it be more than ever in the air around the diners at the Savoy on the 14th. May they come with bulging purses and leave without a sou. A light heart is worth far more than a heavy purse, and no guest should be able to leave the room with a gay spirit who has not given to the uttermost of his ability in the good cause." (Applause.)

Ten Generous Managers.

Continuing, the Chairman said: "I met Sir Alfred Butt the other day in the passage of a club. He was on this question, and said, 'Why don't you get eight managers to give £100 a year?' I said, 'Right you are.' He said, 'If you will get nine, I will give £100 a year.' I am afraid he was had over that. Lady Wyndham had already done that. I rang up on the telephone, and found that most of the London managers and actor-managers had promised to give £100 each per year. (Loud cheers.)

Tactful Administration.

"I just want to say a few words about the fund, and about the gentle, admirable and tactful way in which it is managed. Mr. Coltson, the admirable secretary of our Fund, has a little office in Adam-street, Adelphi, where he, with several colleagues, meet once a week to deal with cases which come from all parts of the country. It is a very difficult task. The appeals come from people who want to borrow a £1, £2, and even £50; some ask for 10s. to go here, or a suit of clothes to go there. These men sit and consider these cases, and they are very kindly in their decisions, and seldom give offence. They think over every case, and argue it out, and it is extraordinary the amount of kindness and good they do to our less fortunate brethren, and that is why I shall always work for members of our profession till I die." (Hear, hear.) "I say this very much out of the feelings of my heart, because many of us might have failed at any other job. We are rather like tramps; we come, we go. You know, acting and appearing on the stage is a terribly nervous business, and if we were suddenly to find we could not go on with it to what are we to turn? It is like the fellows coming back asking for a job. I do not think I personally could do anything else except go on the stage, and it is for that reason I feel so deeply for people who cannot turn to anything else. Some of you can. Most of my colleagues did extraordinarily well in the Army, and served their country very well, but to turn suddenly to something else is very difficult."

First Lady President.

"I just want, if I may, to propose the toast of a lady whom we all very much love and admire, who is very proud to be known as Lady Wyndham, and is just as proud to be known as Mary Moore." (Applause.) "If ever there was a lady who had the love of her profession at heart it is Lady Wyndham. She wants to set this Fund and everything connected with it on a firm basis. She is a business woman, and she wants to get it done while she is the President. She is the widow of, to my mind, the greatest comedian in his own line ever seen on any stage." (Hear, hear.) "There have been several who at banquets have described themselves as unworthy to reply to 'The Stage.' Heavens above! If there were people who were worthy, they were Irving, Tree, Wyndham, and Alexander. They are there in spirit to-night wishing us luck, and asking us to help those people they used to help with all their might. I know Lady Wyndham would like me to couple her name with the past presidents. I am glad to thank her for taking up the presidency of the Fund, and have great pleasure in coupling her name with the toast I have proposed." (Cheers.)

Art or Artfulness?

Lady Wyndham, who was received with much applause, replied. She said: "Ladies and gentlemen, I shall only detain you a few minutes. It has been a great pleasure to listen to Mr. du Maurier's delightful speech, and I thoroughly endorse all he has said about the Fund. I know we shall hear later in the evening that your response to his appeal has been truly magnificent. For this, as President of the Fund, I thank you most heartily, and I am sure you will all join with me in congratulating our Chairman on the art, or shall we say the artfulness, he has displayed in the difficult rôle of beggar. (Laughter and applause.) I am deeply touched by Mr. du Maurier's very kind reference to myself, and to dear Sir Charles, and I am very proud of the honour which has been conferred upon me by electing me as President. Especially would I remember that there had been only two other presidents of this Fund, and that they were Sir Henry Irving and Sir Charles Wyndham. I hope I shall not be accused of undue modesty when I tell you how deeply I feel the difficulty—I might say the impossibility—of adequately following in their footsteps. In case there are some of you here who do not know the history of this Fund, I may tell you that its inception took place at a supper party given by a famous actor, who was affectionately known to his friends as 'Dear old Johnnie Toole.' It may interest you to know that those present were Henry Irving, Charles Wyndham, Squire Bancroft, John Hare, Wilson Barrett, Wm. Kendal, David James, and Thomas Thorne. It was at that supper party that Toole made the appeal to his brother actor-managers which started the Fund. The original idea was that it should be solely supported by members of the profession. But unfortunately the subscriptions did not keep pace with the growth of the profession, and Sir Henry Irving inaugurated this annual dinner with its appeal to the public. We hope to return to the original idea, and, as I daresay some of you know, we have a scheme for rendering this Fund self-supporting from within, but at this light-hearted gathering I do not propose to inflict on you any of the details. We are going to be merry, and when you hear from Mr. Martin Harvey the wonderful result of our Chairman's energy and persuasiveness, I am sure we shall all feel we have earned the right to thoroughly enjoy ourselves. Once more I thank you." (Loud cheers.)

£3,000 Subscription List.

Mr. Martin Harvey (vice-president of the fund) announced that the receipts amounted to over £3,000—a record for the Actors' Benevolent Fund. The largest amount in times past, he added, was, he believed, £2,500. He attributed such a splendid advance to the popularity of their chairman and the presence of the ladies. (Applause.)

The dinner tables had been set round the hall, and the space kept clear for dancing, which was kept up till midnight to the strains of the Southern Syncopated Orchestra.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P. P.—*George Robey was born on Sept. 19, 1869; Joe Elvin, Nov. 29, 1862.*

W. G. EATON.—*The statement referred to the musical directors who were at present in harness.*

The Regiment of Guards are giving an attractive concert at the Royal Albert Hall to-morrow (Thursday) in aid of the Guards' Home for Daughters of Guardsmen. The King and Queen are expected to be present. Dame Nellie Melba, Mme. Clara Butt, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Mr. Tom Burke, and the Guards' massed bands will take part.

The "Romance of MadameTussaud's," written by Mr. John Tussaud, is now in the hands of the printers, and will be published shortly by Messrs. Odhams.

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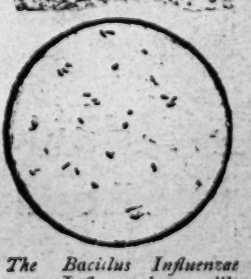

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FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ACCRINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. J. Leo Connor; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Taylor.—"Hindle Wakes" is again proving a capital attraction here.

Boors, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-road.

ALDERSHOT.

ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Performances of "The Cingalee," comic opera, in aid of local charities, by the Deerd. Operatic Society.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME (P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle.—The bill here includes Miss Sara Williams, prima donna; Dave Morris, comedian; Bud Richie, in song and story; Horse and De Lil, in vocal and gymnastic novelty; Revel Quartette, introducing all styles of dancing; Abe Miller and Michael Canning, in comedy "creation"; and Sanford and Lyons, comedians.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Geo. R. Coates.—Macpherson, the Tank Corps favourite, entertains with his accordion; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 140, Old-sq.

ATTERCLIFFE.

PALACE.—L., Messrs. Walker and Bennett; G. M., Mr. Arthur R. Walker; A. M., Mr. Edwin F. Gaunt; Mus. D., Mr. Edward T. Allen.—An attractive bill is headed by Lloyd and Montrose, comedy entertainers. Other excellent turns are given by The Daring Aeriels, gymnasts; Jaxon and Eddie, in "Acrojuggle Oddities"; George Weyman and Percy Lane, singing and dancing act; Alexander's Six Excellas, singing and dancing scena; Eileen and May Trio, musical act; and Dan Graham, comedian.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. T. E. Evans.—Mrs. Kimberley's company in "Tatters."

TIVOLI.—L., Signor Pepi; M., Mr. G. Johnson.—The Route Four, Jack Patterson, Frank Dickinson, Doris Hunter, "Auber," Langford Trio, and Fisher and Lea.

PALACE.—L. and M., Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—Tom E. Roma's concert party, "Chums," also Harold Robinson and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—"The Female Hun" provides the attraction here this week.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—Jack Marks' musical extravaganza, "Honeymoon Island," is being staged here this week, with Mr. Marks himself playing the chief comedy rôle, and Dorothy Hayman as the leading lady.

PUMP ROOM.—D., Mr. John Hatton. Mus. D., Mr. G. B. Robinson.—In a busy week of musical activity in the city are the two appearances to-morrow (Thursday) of Miss Kathleen Thomson, the gifted pianiste. On Saturday the annual renderings of "The Messiah" are promised.

Boors, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—Bernard Hishin's company opened on Monday night with "His Little Widows," with Laddie Cliff in the principal part.

PALACE. — R. M., Mr. Geo. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—The leading lines in the variety programme this week are Hilda Glyder, Four Kempton Foleys, Buckley James, Jeavon and Jens, Athelda, Lancashire Players, Billy Willis, &c.

Boors, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street, Church-street, and Station-road.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Scottish Entertainments, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. Reed; R. M., Mr. G. Crow; Mus. D., Mr. W. Letterborough.—The Deguchi troupe of Japanese artists top the bill with an acrobatic act; the Ball Troupe of cyclists; the Havilands, in a clever act, entitled "Repairing a Telephone Wire."

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen & Sons; Sole L., Mme. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown.—"Romance" pays yet another visit, with Miss Frances Dillon, Charles Barrett and Frank G. Bayley playing the principal characters.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Claude E. Marner; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—Mr. Seymour Hicks' production, "Cash on Delivery," is attracting large audiences.

Boors, The Chemists, 108, Commercial-road; 76-78, Old Christchurch-road; 50, Charminster-road; 302, Holdenhurst-road, Westbourne; 80, Poole-road, West Southbourne; 20, Southbourne-grove, Winton; 105, Wimborne-road.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—F. W. Warden and K. F. Hooper's company in "Five Nights."

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—This week Harland and Rollison, musical grotesques; Alfred James Holt, in mimicry, &c.; and pictures.

THE PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Midland Electric Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Taylor.—Continuous exhibition daily.

Boors, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gardens.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW ROYAL.—P., Exors. of the late Chas. Gadsby; L., Mr. A. E. Gadsby; B. M., Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Return visit of Alfred Denville's Co. in "Annie Laurie."

QUEEN'S. — P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The Royal Syndicate's musical revue, "A Trip to Paris."

COATBRIDGE.

ROYAL.—P., Coatbridge Entertainers, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. Sowerby; Mus. D., Miss Frances Heath.—The Four Curtises, vaudeville entertainers; Sonni, comedy musician; Annie Tough, vocal comedienne; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Coatbridge Picture House, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry Lucas; Mus. D., Mrs. Fraser.—The Richardsons and a piano; Casca and Florence, comedy acrobatic speciality; Maggie Kerby, Tyrolean vocalist; and pictures.

CROYDON.

GRAND. — L. & M., Mr. Cyril Royce; A. M., Mr. W. J. White; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—The Croydon Stagers Operatic Society in "Merrie England."

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. H. Chapman. — Harry Day presents "On the Wing," featuring George Clarke and Isabelle Dillon.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, George-st.; 42-44, North End.

DARWEN.

HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. E. & A. Shorrock; Mus. D., Mr. W. Yates.—Messrs. Arthurs present the musical comedy, "Joy Days."

Boors, The Chemists, 10, Market-street.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field.—Mr. A. Brattie presents "Sally in Society."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Takeo and Koma Namba, Japanese American entertainers; Three Daring Recs, comedy flying trapeze act; Arthur Foster and Ninon, elements of vanity; Holden and Graham, versatile originalities; David and Marriott, Welsh operatic duettists; Major Wix, musical trumpeter; Adkin and Co., in ventriloquial act.

Boors, The Chemists 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND.—L., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. W. North.—Messrs. Balland and Cameron present "Peg o' My Heart."

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. W. North.—Belle Davis and company in "Moonlight on the Missisippi"; Dudley Dale, who talks and dances; The Two Merry Lees, in comedy episode, "A Cinema Plot"; Rene Rice, in songs and stories; Rosie and M. Dubin, in vocal act; W. B. Raby, comedian; J. E. Sutton, entertainer at the piano; The Red, White and Blue Trio, cycle act.

Boors, The Chemists, 71, Frenchgate.

EASTBOURNE.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—Messrs. Harold Wagner and Herbert Shardon's company in "Disgraced."

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDEN.—M. and Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Daily concerts by the Devonshire Park Winter Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Emlyn Thomas. Also Mr. J. H. Scotland, humourist; and the Jollity Vaudeville Party.

Boors, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hooper; Mus. D., Mrs. E. E. Leaning.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mr. Fred Roma presented the comedy revue, "All Change Here."

Boors, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GOOLE.

COLISEUM.—P. & M., Mr. Ben Popplewell; Asst. M., Mr. Eric Popplewell; A. D., Mr. Frank L. Finlay.—Zellini, comedy juggler; F. V. St. Clair, popular vocalist; the Renos, operatic vocalists; Luhanna Ladies, acrobatic act; the Lawser Co., musical act; G. W. Foster, comedian; Lieut. Gordan, the military ventriloquist; the Mountfords, sensational balancers.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

AQUARIUM.—L., Mr. W. H. Nightingale; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Chapman.—Jackson Owen, in the musical comedy, "Na Poo."

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Mr. W. H. Nightingale; Mus. D., Mr. A. S. Wilson.—Miss L. Bateman presents "Tainted Goods."

REGENT THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen; Mus. D., Mr. C. Holden.—The Soga Trio, Jack Allen, Bunny and Dawe.

HIPPODROME. — G. M., Mr. E. W. Nichols; Mus. D., Mr. J. C. Everard.—Eva Linacre, Tom Neil, Duggie Scott, Arthur St. Clair and the Twelve London Belles, Maude Williams, and J. A. Salisbury's Operatic Sextette.

Boors, The Chemists, 2, Broad-row, King-street, and Theatre Plain.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. F. H. G. Hughes.—Mr. Fred Collins presents the revue, "Bachles and Herrin'."

Boors, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

GUILDFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., County and Boro' Halls Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Barr; Mus. D., Mr. A. Woods.—W. W. Kelly's company, in "A Royal Divorce," is the big attraction here.

Boors, The Chemists, 113, High-st.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—The Halifax Light Opera Society, in "The Duchess of Dantzic," are here for another week. The production is proving a great success.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Palace Theatre (Halifax), Ltd.; M., Mr. E. O. Waller; M. D., Mr. Wm. Davidson.—Akroyd and Hardy, in their musical act, with flute and harp; and the Caron Troupe of lady gymnasts, share the top of the bill, which also includes Terry Wilson, in "songs of distinction"; Orpheus Trio; Theo. Ward, in "Masterpieces"; and the Four Madcaps, in a versatile act.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Corn-market.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—P., Hastings and St. Leonards Theatre Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—Welcome return visit of Messrs. Murray King and Charles Clark's company in the successful comedy, "Roxana."

Boors, The Chemists, 17-19, Robertson-street; 61, George-street.

HITCHIN.

BLAKE'S THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Chas. Locke; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Godber.—The Westwoods, novelty cyclists; and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. R. A. Brown; Mus. D., Miss M. D. Cullack.—Mr. Arthur Roberts; Miss Nellie Townsend, in a dumb show scena, "Courtship and Marriage"; Butler and Barnes, in mirth and melody; Lowell Bros., balancers and comedy musicians; and pictures.

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, M., Mr. J. Barnett; Mus. D., Mr. A. Leader.—One of the most remarkable musical acts in variety comprises an organ recital by Mr. G. H. Pattman, in conjunction with Miss Minnie Rigby, a charming vocalist. The programme is also a strong one.

TIVOLI.—P., Kingston Varieties Co.; M., Mr. G. W. Ashton.—Great Como, a clever illusionist, is at the top of the programme. Michael Richardini Troupe, physical culture gymnasts; the Lovick Jewels, instrumentalists and vocalists; the Mellow Dees, a harmonious male quartette; a clever burlesque by Spider Jackson and Co.; J. P. Aderley, entertainer; Molly Butler, dialect comedienne; Del Ormes, dancing act; and Harold Owen, comedian, comprise the programme.

Boors, The Chemists, 10-12, King Edward-street.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Miss Edith Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. E. Lewin Taylor.—Messrs. Frank Gerald and Val Gurney's company in "A Sinner in Paradise."

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Lupton.—Mr. Leslie Kyle's company, in "The Girl From Ciro's."

Boors, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

KETTERING.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—M., Messrs. Alf. Bailey & Co.—On Tuesday night, and throughout the remainder of the week, the Kettering Operatic Society present Cellier's comic opera, "Dorothy."

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros. —Mr. A. G. Young presents "Miffins in a Muddle," a musical comedy revue.

Boors, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-place.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. Henry Lees; A. M., Mr. James Cousins; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—A busy revue show, entitled "Sky High," is presented here by a strong cast of apt players.

Boors, The Chemists, 15, Leith-walk.

LUTON.

PALACE.—M. Ds., Mr. Lyons and Mr. Hart; G. M., Mr. Mark Lorne; Mus. D., Mr. Purvis.—The company here include the Alhambra Five, the wonderful dancers; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette; Parky Knight, comedian, Rosie Garston, a smart comedienne; and pictures.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Graham Falcon; G. M., Mr. O'Sullivan.—"My Son Sammy," musical absurdity, presented by Ernest Dottridge.

Boors, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

NEATH.

PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; Mus. D., Mr. Edgar Lewis.—Roy Hunter and his wonder horse; Nina Bartlett Trio, in a novel musical mélange; and pictures complete.

GNOLL HALL.—P., The Gnoll Picture & Variety Co., Ltd.; Sec., Mr. Glyn Gething; M., Mrs. L. Trueman; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. E. Hutchins.—Harry Taft, the original comedian; Frank and Rose O'Neill, in their refined musical entertainment; also pictures.

GWYN HALL.—P., Neath Corporation; L., Chief Constable Wm. Higgins.—Manville Morton's revusical musical comedy company in "Sure Thing." Mr. Stewart Graham is the general manager.

Boors, The Chemists, 56, Wind-st.

NORTH SHIELDS.

ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; G. M., Mr. Horace Lee; M. D., Mr. Charles Turner.—Mr. Thos. F. Convery's Co., with the pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. J. F. Heslop; M. D., Mr. Wm. Terrent.—Haley's Komets, in garden revuette; Jack Coran, in musical act, "The Bandmaster's Dilemma"; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—The First Army Entertainers, known in France as "Les Rouges et Noirs," are presenting their revue "Splinters."

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—Jimmy Jewe and company, in comedy sketch, "Idleitis"; The Adams Trio, trick and comedy cyclists; Scott Argyll, versatile entertainer; Elise Loubert, vocalist and musician; Lena and Lewis, coloured duo; Billy Bristow, singer and dancer; and The Debreans, jugglers.

RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. D. W. Reid; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Hamilton.—Mandola Family, musicians; The Glittos, acrobats; Melville and Meta, dancers; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. W. B. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Fred French.—A strong variety bill includes the Rhondda Miners, in their vocal scens, "Down in a Coal Mine"; Relwyzkow, light-weight wrestler; Fred Richards, comedian; De Vola and Rex, sensational equilibrists; and the Grandoscope.

PORT TALBOT.

NEW.—Jt. L., Messrs. John Evans and Vivian Aldridge; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; M., Mrs. Vivian Aldridge.—Edward M. Cooke presents "Oh! La La."

RAMSGATE.

PALACE THEATRE.—Under direction of Freeholder, Mrs. A. Reeve-Sanger.—A. M., Mr. H. M. Harcourt; Mus. D., Mr. Williamson.—The Howards, St. Quentin and the Four Impromptus, are included in a big vaudeville entertainment here.

Boors, The Chemists, 20-24, Harbour-st.

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. F. A. Head.—Messrs. Best and Taylor's company in "By Jingo!"

Boors, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

ROTHERHAM.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Ernest G. Smith; R. M., Mr. Chas. Danton; Mus. D., Mr. A. E. Breakwell.—Fred Brezin, Anglo-French humoristic entertainer, heads the bill. The Mikado Family, in an exceptionally clever gymnastic turn; Bert Castle and Jimmie Pullin, light and character study comedians. Others include Arcoda, in funny quips; Record Quartette, in their South African novelty banjo act; and Dudley and Walker, who sing their own compositions.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. J. Steeples; M. & Sec., Mr. Fred Shaw; R. M., Mr. J. Dickinson; Mus. D., Mr. A. Grafton-Tottem.—Heading a capital bill is Carl Hertz, the famous American illusionist, ably assisted by Emile D'Alton and the wonderful Nautch dancer, Zira Kayan. Other turns are Walter O'Brien, entertainer at the piano; Gyto, juggler; Pat Trevor and Ethel Ware, comedy duo; Harry Knox, comedian; and the Three Joy Bells, dancers and singers.

Boors, The Chemists, 10-12, High-street; 8, Bridgegate.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Ireson.—Nightingale's pantomime, "Aladdin." Cast includes Ella Roma and Walter Cranby.

HIPPODROME. — P., Hippodrome (St. Helens), Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. J. B. Lloyd; Mus. D., Mr. Galstone.—Rich Hayes, Gordon Brown, Hal Wright, Barrie Seddon, Tabee, Two Violets, Brown and Potter.

Boors, The Chemists, 6-8, Ormskirk-street.

SALFORD.

REGENT, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Bert Broadbridge.—Query ?, Givano, Rene, Gomez, McKinley, Sisters De Wynne, Pop Carson, Chris Kenny, Ryan and Raymond.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead & Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Cinderella; or, The Little Glass Slipper."

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peacock; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins.—Mr. Leonard Lawrence and Dorothy Symes and company in repertoire. Monday and Tuesday, "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace"; Wednesday and Thursday, "The Idler"; Friday and Saturday, "A Bunch of Roses."

ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Matthew H. Glenville.—Mr. Glenville's own company in "Shipmates."

Boors, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-street and 18, Newborough.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND. — B. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; M. D., Mr. Warwick Moore.—Thos. C. Dagnall presents the play, entitled "The Freedom of the Seas," including Miss Evelyn Ormonde and Mr. J. Lawrence Anderson.

PALACE. — R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor; M. D., Mr. J. Wilde.—The company includes Marie Kendall, the versatile comedienne; Betty Washington, the popular little violinist; Bert Lloyd presents "The Get-Away"; Royal Cresis, in a refined singing and dancing act; the Junes, Mexican dancers; Granville, with his orchestraphone; and Estelle Rose, in Italian studies.

HIPPODROME. — R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley; M. D., Mr. Alec Kirby.—Varieties by Joe Peterman's big comedy production, "Demobilised"; Esta Stella, vocalist; Ristoria and Partner, in violin quick-change act; M'Lita Dolores, in song impressions; and Ivor Vinter, light comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 97, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 103, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois-hill.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Follett Pennell.—"The Blindness of Virtue" is here this week.

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. R. Singleton.—Miss Ada Reeve, comedienne, is at the head of a good programme, which includes Barton and Ashley, comedians; the Twelvetrees Trio, musicians; Brothers Alders, in gymnastic act; Izuka and Partner, in a novel pot-pourri of comedy; and Josephine La Barte.

PAVILION.—Sole L., Mr. G. W. Bell; A. M., Mr. J. Thomson. — Teddy Worth presents "June in Joyland," a musical comedy revue. Mr. Teddy Worth is in the leading role. The company includes Hazel Wood, the child ventriloquist; the Lovats; and the Sunshine Girls.

STIRLING.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Fred Collins; R. M., Mr. Geo. Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. James Running.—Les Bastiens, acrobats; Frou-Frou, canine novelty; Jim Cheetham, whistler; Petro and Leon, gymnasts; Francis and Alfred, jugglers; Morgan and Griffiths, duettists; Jack Holden, Scotch comedian.

OLYMPIA.—R. M., Mr. Jack M. Calder; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Gillies.—Mr. Henry Lees presents pantomime, "Jack and Jill," with Miss Maude Evans, Miss Jean Kennedy, Syd Coppin, and Jim Jessiman in cast.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; B. M. & S., Mr. John Revill.—James Cameron presents his musical comedy, "Certainly Not."

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—Stanley May and Marshall Walls present Cyril Dunn in a musical production, "Nothing Doing."

STOCKTON.

HIPPODROME.—P., North E. Entertainments, Ltd.; S., Mr. G. V. Stainton; M., Mr. H. B. Metcalfe; M. D., Mr. P. Ferri.—Mr. Harry Burns presented on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "Dick Whittington," with Miss Jenny McRae as Dick and Archie Glen as Idle Jack. For the rest of the week "Robinson Crusoe" (Miss Mena Green), Tubby Stevens as Billy Crusoe and Sid Cotterell as Will Atkins. Each pantomime is produced by Mr. Harry Curwen.

GRAND.—P., Alderman J. Batty; M., Mr. W. Batty; M. D., Messrs. Bentley and Greenfield.—An attractive variety bill includes Jack Sterzelly, with his dog "Lucky"; Frederick Eatham, late solo tenor, Limerick Cathedral; Jack Cream, musical mimic; W. H. Smart, comedian; Fay and Foy, comedy duo; Harry Leslie, club juggler; and Jack Cavalli, Tyneside ventriloquist.

Boors, The Chemists, 104-105, High-street.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. R. Willis; R. M., Capt. Willie Willis; Mus. D., Mons. Jules Francati.—Mr. William Maclaren and his specially selected company, including full chorus, and principal dancer, in "The Sign of the Cross."

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee & M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Crocker.—Messrs. Philip Braham and Campbell, Ltd., are presenting "Buzz-Buzz" this week, with a strong cast.

PAVILION.—G. M. (for the Corporation), Mr. Chas. G. Price.—The chief attraction here is the visit of Miss Margaret Cooper, who is assured of a great reception. She is accompanied by Miss Beatrice Eveline (cellist), Miss Edith Rihll (pianist), Mr. James Howell (baritone), and Mr. Thornley Dodge (entertainer).

Boors, The Chemists, 46-48, Fleet-street.

WATFORD.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor.—Harry Burns is presenting the comedy novelty, "Making Movies," and "Syncopated Schooldays," here this week.

Boors, The Chemists, 115, High-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND.—S. L. and M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Jackson.—Mr. Leon M. Lion's production, "Homespun."

ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Edwin T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Mr. Joe Hastings' circus revue, "Crack o' Whip."

EMPIRE.—S. L., Sir Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Guy E. Dunning; Mus. D., Mr. B. Sorge.—The Wylie-Tate production, "The Follies of 1919," featuring Annie Croft, Reginald Sharland, Frank Green, Lillie Ellis, and Tom Frewer.

Boors, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-st.; 82, Chapel Ash.

WREXHAM.

HIPPODROME.—L., Wrexham Entertainments, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; G. M., Mr. W. J. Fender.—Fred Osmond's company, including Miss Lily Harrold and Harry T. Wood, are appearing in "The Curse of the Black Pearl."

Boors, The Chemists, 2, Westminster-buildings, Regent-street.

You Can Live { 13 days without Food. 3 days without Water. Only 3 minutes without Air.

Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh and Whooping Cough

Reduce the Air Ration below Health Point.

The natural consequence is that the breathing is affected, the bronchial tubes or bronchi become inflamed, and cough, more or less serious, follows. If neglected the entire respiratory system is weakened, and that way consumption lies. Children suffer more frequently from such complaints than do their elders, the death rate among the very young being truly appalling, and in too many instances due entirely to thoughtless neglect.

The World's Supreme Remedy

is Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, so called because of the rapidity with which it overcomes chronic coughs and cures deep-seated and long-standing cases of any of the above-named troubles. Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, in Open Competition with the world, was

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for its purity, efficacy, and pharmaceutical excellence.

Many thousands of testimonials from cured patients, scientific men, and doctors have been received. The following is an example:—

Chas. Hyatt-Woolf, Esq., F.R.P.S., F.R.S.L., in his work, "Truths About Things We Live On and Daily Use," says: "I have experimented in the laboratory with Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and I have likewise applied it in practice . . . . In all cases to which I applied it the influence of this remedy was most marked."

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The manufacture of Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is conducted under the most hygienic conditions, supervised by trained pharmacists, and the product is never touched by human hands.

Liquid or Pastilles.

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is prepared as a liquid medicine, and also in the form of pastilles, the latter being packed in hermetically-sealed tins, which are always handy for use.

Reduced fac-simile of original package. Refuse all imitations & substitutes

Ask always for Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. It is sold by Chemists, Stores, and Medicine Dealers in all parts of the world. If your Chemist is out of stock he will get it for you.

English Prices, 1/3 & 3/-

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Touring Contract Ballot—A.A. New Year Council Election—A Boom in Shakespeare——Artists and Charity Performances.

A.A. and the Touring Contract.

Voting papers in respect of the ballot upon the touring contract resolution adopted at the special general meeting at the Globe Theatre on Nov. 30 have been returned to the Actors' Association in large numbers. The date for returning papers is fixed for to-morrow (Thursday), and it is of the highest importance that every member of the Association should exercise his or her vote. The merits of the resolution have been fully commented upon in these columns, and it only remains for the members generally to intimate their will in as unanimous a way as possible.

The resolution, it may be repeated, runs as follows:—"That the Association accepts the draft submitted to it as the irreducible minimum terms to be embodied in the standard contract for provincial and suburban touring and stock companies." The vote is to be either a direct affirmative or a direct negative.

Should the resolution be defeated, the Council will, of course, carry on until the election next month, and it will depend upon the members returned whether the proposed standard contract is adopted, or whether the new Council embark upon the difficult task of reopening negotiations with the managerial associations.

In the meantime our advice to the touring actor and actress is to accept the suggestions offered, and not lose the substance for the shadow. The proposed contract as it stands is, at any rate, a beginning, and forms a basis for more liberal terms when the advantages to both sides of an agreed formula have been recognised.

The important thing in regard to the proposed contract is not so much what the artists gain, but what they are leaving behind—iniquitous conditions such as the one-sided notice, the possibility of sweating wages, no payment whatever for rehearsals, indefinite terms with regard to engagements. All these are killed by the agreement which the Council of the Association recommends its members to adopt, and if their recommendation is turned down, we fail to see any prospect of success for different men and different methods.

The 1920 Council Election.

We reproduce in another column the ballot paper for the Council, together with the rules bearing upon the election. The necessity for all members to vote, in what may well be termed a crisis in the affairs of the Association, cannot be overemphasised.

A Shakespeare Boom.

Shakespeare will be worthily housed at Christmas, and Mr. Martin Harvey has selected Boxing Night for his production of "Hamlet" at Covent Garden. A return to custom will be made by the allotment of the part of the Player Queen to a boy, and the occasion will be made doubly interesting by the fact that Edward Gordon Craig (son of Gordon Craig and grandson of Ellen Terry) will make his first stage appearance in the part.

"The Merchant of Venice" is still going strong at the Court; Mr. Fred Terry talks of bringing his fine new production of "Much Ado About Nothing" to London; and Mr. Matheson Lang and Mr. Arthur Bourchier are to appear as Othello and Iago respectively at the West End early in the New Year. And Owen Nares has just told us that he is now really getting ready to impersonate the Prince of Denmark.

Early in the New Year—on Friday evening, Jan. 9—Henry Ainley and Gilbert Miller will produce "Julius Cæsar." The dominating note of Mr. Ainley's revival will be the simplicity of treatment in the scenic department. So far as may be practicable there will be very few cuts in the original text.

In the meantime, Mr. Ainley will celebrate the one hundredth performance of "Reparation" on Monday next, and he will give extra matinées of the Tolstoy drama on Boxing Day and New Year's Day. The run will end on Saturday evening, Jan. 3, after which the St. James's Theatre will remain closed for final rehearsals of Shakespeare's tragedy.

The A.A. Annual Meeting.

The annual general meeting of the Actors' Association will be held on Sunday, Feb. 1, at a place yet to be decided upon. Attention is drawn to the rule bearing upon the discussion of special business, which provides that all propositions of individual members not having been passed by the Council must bear the signatures of 30 members in full benefit and be received at head office not later than Dec. 28.

Mr. Sydney Valentine.

The latest news regarding Mr. Sydney Valentine seems a shade more hopeful. He passed a good night on Monday, but his condition remains unchanged.

Artists and Charity Performance.

A meeting is being arranged between representatives of the Actors' Association and the managerial societies in order to come to an arrangement whereby a percentage of the money raised at charity performances should be allocated to the professional charities. We have for many years advocated that such a course should be adopted, and it is hoped that the conference between the societies will result in a definite scheme being prepared by which the theatrical funds will benefit.

We might commend to the attention of star artists the methods of Mr. George Graves, who confronts visitors to his dressing-room with an appeal for the particular charity in which he is interested. When he was president of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund that society reaped considerable advantage in that way. "Get them to produce their cheque-book when they are behind the scenes," said Mr. Graves, "and they sign and smile."

Re-enter the Old Time Playbill.

Quite an interesting innovation—or rather "reversion-to-type"—is to be introduced by Captain Basil Dean in connection with his "Reandean" production of "Fifinella" at the Scala next Saturday night. This is a playbill printed in the old black printers' ink, quaint type form, which was popular in the play houses of what old actors used to call "The Pal-my Days."

When the "Reandean" Company needs a dramatic piece for the Scala they will, Mr. Dean informs us, present a drama based on De Vere Stacpoole's romantic story, "The Blue Lagoon," and adapted by Messrs. Norman Macowan and Charlton Mann. The latter is the esteemed manager of the Adelphi.

Another Play from America.

A play by the author of the Gaiety's great success, "Going Up," namely, James Montgomery, has just been brought from America by J. L. Sacks. Its title is the same as Doctor Johnson's only tragedy, viz., "Irene," and its production in New York is reviewed on another page.

Comic Opera for the Alhambra.

After Sir Oswald Stoll has finished his one-month season of film shows at the Alhambra, there will be presented there an English adaptation of the Dutch-Oriental new comic opera, "Medora," announced in the "Era" some weeks ago as having just been acquired by Manager Bernard Hishin. In this presentation, Mr. Hishin will be associated with Miss Violet Monotte (Mrs. Frank Wyatt). One of the parts will be played by that lady's son, Mr. Frank Wyatt, jun. The leading lady is Miss Ada Reeve.

Benson-Shakespeare Festival.

Sir Frank Benson, who has just completed a successful Shakespearean season at the New Queen's Theatre, Manchester, has expressed his intention of repeating the experiment, but on prolonged scale, next year, and is encouraged to hope that the work of himself and his partner, Mr. Harold V. Neilson, may be duly recognised as one of the regularly-recurring standard attractions of the city, such as the Hallé concerts and the opera seasons. The object is ultimately, "for a certain number of weeks in the year, to get going the same kind of Shakespearean festival that for many years" he (Sir Frank) "had the honour of conducting at Stratford-on-Avon."

His views of critics and the man in the street are piquant. "The best judge of dramatic art," he says, "is the general public—if appealed to reasonably. The second best judge is the artist, the third the art critic, and the worst the artists' friends."

A.C.U. Watch Night Service.

The usual Watch Night Service will be held at St. Anne's Church, Soho, on New Year's Eve at 11.15 p.m. Members of the theatrical and variety artist profession within reach may be glad to be reminded and to attend, either as ordinary members of the congregation, or possibly as an impromptu choir. For those who wish to sit together and help in the way suggested seats will be reserved in the body of the church until 11.10 p.m. if they will send a postcard to the secretaries, A.C.U. Headquarters, 28, Soho-square, W. 1, not later than Monday, Dec. 29.

"Where the Rainbow Ends."

Mrs. Clifford Mills' charming Christmas play, "Where the Rainbow Ends," will be revived for matinées only at the Victoria Palace on Saturday next, Dec. 20, and will be continued daily through the holidays. Graceful little Stella Bonheur will again be Will o' the Wisp, which she played so admirably last year, and Mr. Clifton Alderson will resume his original part of the Dragon King. Other members of the company include Miss Marion Lind as Matilda Flint or Aunt Matilda, Mr. Edward Cooper as St. George of England, and Teddy Hayward as Jim Blunders.

A Real "Reliable."

Mr. G. Beresford-Innes was engaged by Mr. F. J. Nettlefold as understudy for all the parts in "Othello," except the title-rôle, at the Scala Theatre. Rather a large order, but Mr. Nettlefold knew he was quite safe in his selection.

The Christmas "Buzz-Buzz."

Mr. Andre Charlot has provided for Christmas a new version of "Buzz-Buzz" at the Vaudeville. It is smarter than ever with its burlesque of the "Maid of the Mountains," with Nelson Keys, and its brilliant fast finale.

Revue of Constant Change.

"Bran Pie," Mr. Charlot says, is to be a revue of "constant changes," and this is proved by Miss Lee White joining the cast. She has a very amusing trio with the Two Bobs, and in addition other new laughter-provoking items are scattered through the revue, notably a burlesque pantomime with book by John Hastings Turner, and two numbers by Clay Smith.

Two New Sheridanians.

Mr. Seymour Hicks tells us that, in addition to becoming stage controller for Sir Alfred Butt at the Adelphi and the Gaiety, he will, in due course, play Charles Surface with Miss Ellaline Terriss (Mrs. Hicks) as Lady Teazle. And a delightful and dashing duo, too!

Gilbert and Sullivan Repertory.

The six weeks' repertory season of Gilbert and Sullivan opera will begin at the Prince's on Monday. In the course of the season the following additional operas will be revived: "Princess Ida," "Trial by Jury," "The Pirates of Penzance," "The Sorcerer," and "H.M.S. Pinafore." There will be an extra matinée on Boxing Day, when "The Gondoliers" will be given.

"Bluebell in Fairyland."

Mr. Hicks promises a feast of good things for his revival of "Bluebell in Fairyland." The fairy play will open on Monday, Dec. 29, for two weeks, at the Metropolitan, Edgware-road, where it will be given every afternoon, and the following two weeks, commencing Jan. 12, will be spent at the Chelsea Palace, also for the afternoons only.

"Dicky," the crossing sweeper, is in the hands of Mr. Geoffrey Saville, a young actor whose clever work and whose striking personal resemblance to Mr. Hicks makes him admirably suited for a part made famous by the popular actor-manager, whilst the part of "Bluebell" so long associated with Miss Ellaline Terriss is being played by Miss Joan Clarkson. Johnny Danvers will be seen in his original part, and Tom Fancourt and J. C. Buckstone will also figure among the comedians.

Mme. Elise Clerc is putting in twelve hours a day at her work of preparing the fairies for two pantomimes for Mr. Sidney Bransgrove, and for "Bluebell in Fairyland," which is to be given on the Gulliver Tour. Several of Miss Clerc's pupils are appearing in "Bluebell" and in various pantomimes.

Leicester's 20-weeks' Season.

Saturday last brought to a close Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's season of twenty weeks at the old Theatre Royal, Leicester, which from the very commencement has been a record success. On Friday evening Miss Violet Carlyle, Mr. Mitchelson's leading lady, took her benefit, and both houses were packed to the doors. Miss Carlyle was the recipient of over seventy floral tributes, and her reception was of the most flattering description.

On the concluding evening the theatre was literally besieged, and delighted audiences gave all their favourites a rousing reception. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson bestowed numerous presents on the staff, and to Mr. George F. Warwick, the resident manager, he gave a gold watch as a memento of his visit. Mr. Mitchelson returns in the new year for a longer season. It should be added that during his visit Mr. Mitchelson gave a fresh play each week.

"The Girl for the Boy."

Messrs. Goodson and Shurley, Ltd., have secured the entire rights of the above-named attractive musical comedy from the Duke of York's Theatre, and the entire production, including scenery and dresses, which cost over £12,000, will be sent on tour early in the New Year, with an exceptionally strong company. The bookings of the tours have been placed in the hands of the experienced agent, Mr. Edward Cranston, of 19, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, to whom all communications should be addressed.

"One Law for Both."

Mr. W. V. Garrod's successful play, "One Law for Both," will be seen on the London Theatres of Varieties Circuit next year—this makes the fourth of this author-manager's plays to be booked by Mr. Charles Gulliver. Messrs. Fuller are shortly producing the piece in Australia, together with Mr. Garrod's latest production, "The Right to Live"; the Fuller firm has acquired in all seven of Mr. Garrod's plays for Australia.

Modern Plays for West Indies.

Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Max Jerome are taking a company with a repertoire of modern plays to the West Indies, and will open on Jan. 19 at Kingston, Jamaica, with "The Man from Toronto." The company includes Miss Aileen Wyse, Dorothy Peters, Marjorie Owen, Winifred Vyvyan, Messrs. Reginald Dance, Charles Courtneidge, James Mason, Robert Noble, H. Langham, and Walter Carr. The plays are being produced by Mr. Frank Cellier.

Artists for Australia.

Mr. T. McCausland Stewart writes from the Actors' Association that he will be very pleased to give any information he can to artists contemplating going to Australia. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

"Mice and Men."

Messrs. B. M. Dunstan and Frank Forbes-Robertson will tour "Mice and Men" early in the spring, Mr. Forbes-Robertson playing Mark Embury and Miss Joyce Corfield Peggy. The piece will be produced by Mr. Lewis T. Casson, who was responsible for the beautiful production of "The Trojan Women," now being played at the Holborn Empire.

Christmas at Manchester.

The Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, will cater for the entertainment of both children and grown-ups at Christmas. On Saturday, Dec. 20, will be produced an entirely new children's play, entitled "Through the Green Door," by Miss Maud Vernon, a Manchester lady, with music by Mr. Norman O'Neill, composer of the music of "The Poor Little Rich Girl." This play will be given every afternoon from Dec. 20, and there will be four evening performances only, namely, from Dec. 20 to 24.

Commencing at the evening performance on Boxing Day, "The Merry Wives of Windsor," as given at the recent Stratford-on-Avon Conference, will be staged every night.

Liverpool Playhouse Prosperity.

Repertory in Liverpool has proved a big financial success, according to the balance-sheet presented at the annual meeting of shareholders of the Playhouse, held on Monday evening, under the chairmanship of Lt.-Colonel J. J. Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., The report stated that there was a profit on the eighth year's working of the Repertory Company of £3,251 4s. 6d., which reduced the balance to the debit of the profit and loss account to £176 3s. 9d.

It was stated that the theatre had done very well during the year, closing with a profit of £3,251, as compared with one of £881 in the previous year, and a loss two years ago, so that during the last two years the theatre had been getting on its feet. Some objection had been taken to the character of the plays presented, and that the theatre was not being carried on as originally intended. It was true they had not gone in for "high-brow" plays, which were extremely gloomy, but the standard of production had been a high one.

Reference had been made in the Press to the wonderful repertory work that had been done in Birmingham, but Liverpool was equally entitled to praise. Another criticism was that plays had been kept running too long, which was not in accordance with repertory ideas, but it was against human nature to take off a play which was meeting with steady and increasing success. The directors were looking forward to strengthening the company at the Playhouse.

REGISTERING BUSINESS NAMES.

THE LEGAL VIEW.

Some concern has been aroused by the ruling given by Judge Cluer in a case recently reported by "The Era," in which his lordship declared that stage names must be registered. Plaintiff in the case did not appear, and her husband acted for her.

When the judge asked him whether his wife's name was registered under the Business Names Act, he said he did not know it was necessary, and it was not known in the profession. The judge held that professionals must be registered.

The Council of the Actors' Association took counsel's opinion in the matter, and have received the following definition of the way in which stage names are affected:—

"I think that a stage name is a business name within the meaning of the Act, and that the practice of any of the professions mentioned in my instruction is the carrying on of a business within the meaning of the Act. In order, however, to render a person carrying on a business in a business name liable to register there must, in my opinion, be a place of business, and this is, I think, a question of facts in each case. Prima facie, therefore, I think that all those persons mentioned in my instructions (except performancers whose places of performance varies with their engagements from time to time, and who have only private addresses) are liable to register.

"With regard to the class excepted above, I do not think that the places where they perform are their places of business, or that the offices of the theatrical agents who procure engagements for them can be so regarded, and therefore unless they so use or advertise their private addresses as to make such addresses places where they enter into or negotiate, or are prepared to enter into or negotiate engagements, or otherwise utilise them for business purposes, I do not think that they are liable to register.

"T. T. C. TOMLIN."

"9, Stone-buildings, Lincoln's Inn,
"Dec. 11."

We append an explanatory note by the Association's solicitors, Messrs. Goddard & Co.:—

I think it is really precisely what I informed the Council last Friday, namely, this: The whole question is governed by whether there is a business address. An artist with a stage name merely acting at different theatres does not require registration. An actor or actress manager would require to be registered; so would an actor teaching acting, dancing, or any other branch of the profession at a regular address, and also two or more actors acting together under a stage name. This still leaves open the question of artists advertising their cards in the papers, and I think the strict interpretation of the act would mean that in that event they would have to register, but for all practical purposes I think this can be left to the discretion of each member to decide for himself. THEODORE GODDARD.

10, Serjeant's Inn, E.C. 4.
A. Lugg, Esq.

LONDON SUBURBAN THEATRES

THE KENNINGTON.

The Wylie-Tate production, "The Whirl of To-day," is the amusement provided for the Kennington patrons this week. Mr. Jack Edge is the principal comedian, and his bright and genial personality, quaint sense of humour, pleasing singing, and clever dancing are greatly appreciated. Mr. Leonard Barry appears in a variety of characters, including a Working Man, Mr. Pussyfoot, and an Italian, all of which give full scope to his skill and versatility. Miss Lilian Coles' sweet voice and graceful acting are admirably suited to the part of Lady Pat, and Miss Ruby Roya in the soubrette parts displays her vocal abilities and dainty art to perfection. A fine scene, depicting a ship at sea, and featuring the rendering of sea songs by a specially picked male chorus, was a great success.

BRIXTON.

Miss Jessie Rose and the Empire Opera Club are giving "A Greek Slave" this week at Brixton. As the performance is one of all-round excellence, and the proceeds are to be devoted to that most deserving institution, St. Dunstan's Hostel, it is to be hoped that Monday's full house will be repeated throughout the week.

The honours of the evening fall to Miss Ida Cracknell, who is charmingly vivacious, and dances gracefully as Iris; Miss Anita De Escobar as Maia and Mr. George Webber as Diorned, both of whom have fine voices and sing with great taste. Miss Jessie Rose wears some pretty costumes as Antonia, and gives an attractive performance of the love-sick Roman lady. Mr. C. Winter Coppin is amusing and pompous as Malcus, the Prefect of Rome; whilst Mr. Ralph Edgar works with unflagging energy and proves extremely comical as the Persian soothsayer, Helidorus.

Macdonald and Young Dinner.

Mr. Robt. Macdonald presided over the first annual dinner given by Macdonald and Young to the members of their companies and staff at the Venetian Hall of the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, when 230 sat down to a magnificent repast. The occasion was honoured by the presence of many influential representatives of the theatrical industry. Among these were Mr. Douglas Miller, representing Mr. Robert Courtneidge; Mr. Thos. J. Cantly, representing Sir Alfred Butt; Mr. Otto C. Cuhing and Mr. H. W. Rowlands, controllers of many provincial theatres, where Macdonald and Young's attractions are assured favourites; Messrs. David Allens were represented by Mr. Geo. Dernan; Mr. Ambrose Manning was among other well-known actors.

Speeches were few but sincere. Mr. Herbert Ralland's proposal of Mr. Macdonald's health was responded to in a manner which showed the esteem and affection the guv'nor holds in the hearts of his employees. Mr. Macdonald, in replying, made a touch reference to his former beloved partner, the late Mr. T. B. Young. Several excellent musical items were rendered by Mr. Martin Iredale and Miss Clara Symons; a couple of 'cello solos were given by Mr. Ganmer Morgan; while Mr. John Le Hay kept the company roaring with his clever ventriloquial turn.

Hovenden's British Grease Paints

These paints are made at our Factory, guaranteed pure colours perfect, and quality better than any foreign make, and at same price. We are also producing

LINING PENCILS & COCOA BUTTER.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." **Mr. WILL EVANS,** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it."

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

THE NEW YEAR COUNCIL ELECTION.

The election of the Council for 1920 is a matter of enormous importance, and members should read carefully the rules governing the election.

No member can vote who is not in full benefit. A member in full benefit is thus clearly defined in the rules:

RULE VI.

4. A member in full benefit shall mean one who has been a member of the Association for at least six months, and who has not resigned, been suspended or expelled, and who is not eight weeks in arrears with his subscription, or owes an equivalent sum—viz., 4s., including fines, levies, dues, or loans. A member who is not in full benefit shall not be entitled to any privileges of the Association except legal advice.

So that a member who owes 4s. to the Association cannot vote.

RULE XX.—QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICE.

1. A candidate for any office in the Association must be a bona fide member, over 21 years of age, and in full benefit at the date of his proposal and election.

2. A candidate for any office must give his consent in writing, and be properly proposed by two members in full benefit.

3. No member shall hold more than one office at a time.

A printed form for nominating candidates can be had on application to the secretary on the form below, or any written form which gives the particulars required may be used for the purpose.

RULE XXI.

1. Retiring officers and members of the Council will be considered renominated for the election unless they notify to the contrary.

2. All nominations for candidates for the Council shall be delivered to the Secretary 14 days at least before the Annual General Meeting. (That is, by Jan. 17 next.)

3. A list of candidates prepared as a voting paper shall be issued to the members, and on such list each member shall record his votes by marking one cross opposite the name of each candidate he desires to see elected. No member shall give more than one vote to any one candidate, and the voting paper shall declare how many votes in all the member may give.

4. Each voting paper must be filled in and signed by the member voting (who must be a member in full benefit), with his name and registered number.

Disqualification of Votes.

Paragraph 5, which follows here, is very important, and a little extra care will prevent the possibility of a voting paper being disqualified.

5. A voting paper on which the votes are not recorded in accordance with the instructions contained thereon, and as specified in this rule, shall be disqualified.

6. Two weeks from the Monday following the Annual General Meeting the poll shall be closed at 12 noon, and any voting papers arriving after that time shall be disqualified.

7. The result of the election shall be announced as soon as the scrutineers have prepared their report.

8. Immediately following the declaration of the result of the election of the Council the Secretary shall ask for nominations for the position of Honorary Treasurer. All nominations shall be delivered to the Secretary within seven days. A vote shall be taken within the next seven days of the members of the Council then in the United Kingdom, and the result announced as early as possible.

The right to vote entails the duty to vote, and it is hoped that every member will at once pay up all arrears and record his or her vote, so that the Council elected for 1920 may feel that it has the backing of the great majority of the Association.

The 1919 Poll.

Below is a record of the polling for the Council for 1919:

Sydney Valentine, 595; C. V. France, 567; Sydney Paxton, 547; Alfred Lugg, 541; Eva Moore (resigned), 476; Henry Vibart, 472; Ben Webster, 470; Norman McKinnel, 470; Henry Ainley (resigned), 448; James Carew, 445; Lilian Braithwaite, 432; Allan Aynesworth, 430; J. Fisher White, 423; George Tully, 414; Julian Royce (resigned), 401; W. G. Fay, 378; Ernest Hendrie, 370; Lennox Pawle, 360; O. B. Clarence, 352; Lena Ashwell (resigned), 350; Dawson Millward, 335; Henry Oscar, 331; Dennis Neilson-Terry, 319; Gerald Ames, 314; Frank Arlton, 314; Phyllis Broughton, 309; Madge McIntosh, 298; A. Harding Steerman, 296; Lucy Sibley, 284; Lisa Colman, 258; Georgina Hamilton, 238; Alfred Goddard, 234; Hugh Wright, 199; Murri Moncrieff, 193; Owen James, 157; Saba Raleigh, 155; Percy Clarbour, 154; Steven Wentworth, 154; Ethel Griffies, 150; Laura Leycester, 139; Ralph George, 139; Ine Cameron, 131; Clifford Rean, 124; Frank Heath Saunderson, 109; E. Story-Gofton, 104; Frank Dix, 102; Edward Cooper, 100; Arthur Cleave, 94; Bert Wilson, 73; David Leslie, 71; Lilian Simpson, 70; J. Scott Leighton, 68; James Hollingdale, 31; Norman Howard, 23.

Provincial Representatives.

We reproduce for the guidance of members the alteration to rules adopted at the special general meeting at the Globe Theatre on Nov. 30.

Rule 19, paragraph 6, to be altered to read as follows:—"And a Council consisting of 60 members, 30 of whom shall be elected as representatives for London, and 30 as representatives of the Provinces. Each shall be elected for one year, at the termination of which period he shall retire, but may offer himself for re-election. In the event of any seat on the Council becoming vacant during the year, through any cause whatever, such seat shall be filled, but only up to the time of the next annual election, by the first on the list of unsuccessful candidates at the last Annual Election. The Editor of the "Actor" shall be ex-officio a member of the Council, but without voting powers at meetings unless duly elected."

By the operation of the above new rule London and the provinces will for the first time both have their special representatives.

A list of candidates duly nominated will appear each week in the theatrical papers.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held at 32, Regent-street on Friday. Present: Mr. Norman McKinnel (deputy-chairman), Messrs. Sydney Paxton, Percy Clarbour, Murri Moncrieff, Alfred Goddard, Ben Webster, A. Harding Steerman, C. V. France, Henry Oscar, F. J. Arlton, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Miss Lilian Braithwaite.

Registration of Stage Names.

Mr. Lugg read counsel's opinion on the registration of stage names and Mr. Goddard's covering letter. The Council agreed that it should be ascertained from Mr. Goddard what steps were necessary in regard to the registration of stage names, the fee, etc.

New Premises.

Mr. Lugg read Mr. Goddard's report on the lease of premises in Rupert-street, which had been viewed by the Council. Acting on instructions, Mr. Lugg had asked Messrs. Goddard and Smith to get a valuation.

The secretary also read letters from Mr. Gatti on the subject of theatrical charities, from Mr. Gerald du Maurier, and from Charles Tolcher.

West End Contract.

Mr. Lugg reported that Mr. Gatti had stated that he had communicated all details to Messrs. Fladgate, who in their turn had communicated with Messrs. Goddard, and that the option clause would be ratified at a future meeting.

NOMINATION FOR THE COUNCIL, 1920,

To represent

LONDON / PROVINCES } **Cross out whichever word is not applicable.**

Retiring Officers and Members of the Council will be considered re-nominated for election unless they notify to the contrary.

Proposed by ..... *No.*.....
(Who must be a Member in Full Benefit.)

Seconded by ..... *No.*.....
(Who must be a Member in Full Benefit.)

Signature of Candidate..... *No.*.....
(Who must be a Member in Full Benefit.)

This Form duly filled in and signed by the Candidate must reach the Secretary not later than January 17, 1920.

ALFRED LUGG, General Secretary.

Tuck's Peace Christmas.

Christmas comes but once a year, and so do Tuck's seasonable art cards and toy books, and each is welcome. This year, as ever, an appropriate name has been found for the series, which is entitled "The Peace Pageant." Permission has again been accorded for Messrs. Tuck to reproduce for the use of the public the topical Royal Christmas Cards prepared for the Royal House, and these choice productions, together with a splendid variety of nearly 1,000 different designs contained in their general collection, will be found fully equal in beauty, design and finish, to any previous Art productions issued by the famous firm.

Miss Lillie Ansell, who figured so charmingly in "The Lilac Domino," will be the Prince Charming of the King's, Hammersmith, "Cinderella."

B.E.S.S. at Bath.

The Bath Branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, through the kind permission of Mr. Arthur Carlton, are giving their second public performance at the Theatre Royal to-morrow afternoon (Thursday), when they will again have the valued help of such prominent Shakesperean exponents as Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and Miss Louise Regnis.

The Phœnix Second Production.

Dryden's "Marriage à la Mode," chosen as a representative example of the author's earlier dramatic work, will serve as the second effort of the Phœnix. The play will be produced on the evening of Sunday, Jan. 19, and repeated the following afternoon. Later productions of the season are: Ben Jonson's "Volpone," Heywood's "Fair Maid of the West," and Otway's "Don Carlos."

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

LEADING MUSICAL DIRECTORS

MR. HORACE SHELDON.

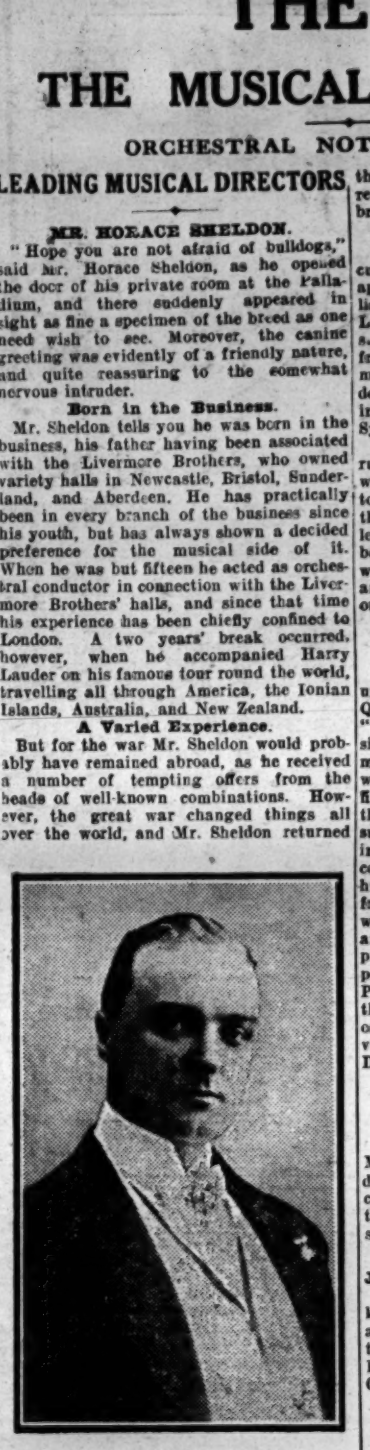
"Hope you are not afraid of bulldogs," said Mr. Horace Sheldon, as he opened the door of his private room at the Palladium, and there suddenly appeared in sight as fine a specimen of the breed as one need wish to see. Moreover, the canine greeting was evidently of a friendly nature, and quite reassuring to the somewhat nervous intruder.

Born in the Business.

Mr. Sheldon tells you he was born in the business, his father having been associated with the Livermore Brothers, who owned variety halls in Newcastle, Bristol, Sunderland, and Aberdeen. He has practically been in every branch of the business since his youth, but has always shown a decided preference for the musical side of it. When he was but fifteen he acted as orchestral conductor in connection with the Livermore Brothers' halls, and since that time his experience has been chiefly confined to London. A two years' break occurred, however, when he accompanied Harry Lauder on his famous tour round the world, travelling all through America, the Ionian Islands, Australia, and New Zealand.

A Varied Experience.

But for the war Mr. Sheldon would probably have remained abroad, as he received a number of tempting offers from the heads of well-known combinations. However, the great war changed things all over the world, and Mr. Sheldon returned



MR. HORACE SHELDON.

home and took a very active part in volunteer war work, having some sensational experiences in connection with the raids, which he will never forget as long as he lives.

As musical conductor he joined the circuit with which he is still connected, in 1906, his first engagement being at the Grand, Clapham, followed by similar positions at the Willesden Hippodrome and the Kilburn Empire. From there he went to another Empire—the Holborn, and then came the tour with Harry Lauder, already mentioned. On his return to this country he resumed his former position at the Holborn, until a vacancy occurring at the Palladium, Mr. Charles Gulliver made him an offer which he accepted, and there he has remained ever since. Mr. Sheldon has had several offers of engagements to again tour round the world, and only within the last three weeks he received the offer of a permanent position in Australia, but so comfortable is he in his present one that he feels no inclination to make a change.

Reverting to his early experiences in the variety business, Mr. Sheldon relates that for some time he was the manager of the Palace, Dundee, the proprietors of which were the Livermore Bros. At the time he was probably the youngest music hall manager in the profession. Another early experience was a tour as manager with the vaudeville company known as the Marvellous Steens. At one time he did business in the agency line, having as partner Mr. E. Macdermott, son of the great Macdermott, but he soon returned to his first love—the musical branch of the profession.

Quaint Press Cuttings.

Mr. Sheldon, producing a book of Press cuttings, quotes some of the notices which appeared in leading American and Australian newspapers while on tour with Mr. Lauder. The critic of a Colorado journal stated that he had "got Sousa licked to a frazzle"; while a long and amusing, but most favourable, description of Mr. Sheldon and his mode of conducting appeared in that very critical newspaper, "The Sydney Bulletin."

The conversation was occasionally interrupted by Mr. Sheldon's canine companion, who continued to show a friendly feeling towards the newspaper man, giving one the impression that he (the bulldog) at least did not consider the interview would be complete unless it was published to the world that he was a valuable pedigree dog, and could boast of distinguished parentage on both sides.

A NEW ORCHESTRA.

Judging by the fine performances given under Mr. Raymond Roze's direction at Queen's Hall on Friday evening of the "Pathetic" symphony, the "Mastersingers" overture, and the "Venusberg" music, the British Symphony Orchestra will be a valuable addition to our list of first-class orchestras. They are sure of the sympathies, and should be sure of the support of the London public in this their initial enterprise—a series of six symphony concerts—seeing that every one of the hundred members is a soldier demobilised from overseas service, and that they are working to benefit a fund for the widows and orphans of soldier-musicians. In each programme are included new native compositions. On Friday two interesting Passacaglias by Cyril Scott were played, the composer conducting, and a very original "Song of the Genie," by Granville Bantock, was sung by Miss Astra Desmond.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S BEREAVEMENT.

Much sympathy is being extended to Mr. G. B. Robinson, the esteemed musical director of the Bath Pump Room Orchestra, at the loss he has sustained by the death of his father, who had been seriously ill for some weeks past.

JAZZ MUSICIANS FOR RAMSGATE.

Harry Gordon (the composer, and well-known pianist from the Maison Lyons) and his Jazz musicians are engaged by the management of the St. Cluo Hotel, Ramsgate, for ten weeks, commencing Christmas morning.

A NEW REVUE.

Thomas Evan Edwardes (late musical director of the Angel Cinema, Islington, and recently at the Queen's Hall during the presentation of the "Surrender of the German Fleet" film) is now rehearsing Joe Peterman's new revue, entitled "The Far East," which he will personally conduct. Mr. Edwardes has also been appointed orchestrator to the firm of Mosley and Harris.

JAZZ AT BRIGHTON.

In addition to Sherry's, we have Ciro's Club in the King's-road, where there is a very fine band, under the leadership of W. C. Summers, and at the Hotel Metropole we find Mahood and his Jazzers almost every evening. A visit to the St. James' Restaurant enables us to listen to J. Martin and his band, whose rendering of Jazz music is voted by all to be of the best.

A BOURNEMOUTH CONDUCTOR-PIANIST.

John P. Cole's Jazz Band is to the visitors and residents one of the natural features of Bournemouth, and no big dance is complete without it. This famous band is frequently making journeys to London, as well as to Salisbury, Winchester, and other South of England cities. John P. has been specially engaged for the next important dance at the Winter Gardens, which takes place on Jan. 2. He is also responsible for the music at the Radena Café, Grand Hotel, Plummer Roddis Restaurant, and Westover Palace, all Bournemouth establishments.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

KINGSWAY HALL.

A friendly but determined revolution lent excitement to the Kingsway Hall concert on Saturday night. The audience revolted against the "no encores" decree in the second half, because they wanted another piccolo solo from Musician F. Brook, of the Welsh Guards Band. They organised a hefty barrage of claps, and it was no good trying to get past it by putting up the next number on the board. Of course, they got their way. That's an instance of a revolution that brings nobody any harm and everybody a good bit of good. The band—they have another excellent soloist in Cornettist H. Swift—played a varied selection in splendid style under the conductorship of their genial director, Lieut. Andrew Harris. The contrast in the "Two Dances" number was illuminating; the "ancient" was all grace and formal beauty, the "modern" sounded like nothing so much as a riotous locomotive on the jazzle-dazzle. But it certainly appealed to modern taste. The evening's singers were only two, but it is enough to say that the two were Miss Megan Foster and Mr. John Adams, to show that the object of the organisers was quality, not quantity. To balance things there were also two entertainers—Miss Mabel Adeane, who sings songs at the piano with plenty of dash and point, and Mr. Arthur Foxon, who was very funny in a monocle monologue and other humorous recitations. Mr. Frank Idle contributed enjoyable organ solos, and Mr. George Ison accompanied with his usual skill.

THE CENTRAL HALL.

The description "dramatic baritone" was never better applied than to Mr. Thomas Howell, not only because it fits the quality of his voice, but because he acts his songs as well as he sings them. His three character sketches on Saturday night of the Demon King (out of Herbert Oliver's "Our Pantomime") a Stoker, and a comic yokel, were all as true and good as they could possibly be. His was the first palpable hit of the evening—as a matter of fact he was number one on the list. There were others to follow, scored by Miss Doris Vane, a soprano with a voice both bright and soft, who invests every song she sings with her own charming personality; by Miss Thelma Petersen, whose rich, vibrant mezzo-contralto and vivacious style gained her a warm welcome, as usual; by Mr. Philip Ritte, another double encore winner, with his sweet-toned tenor so artistically used; by Miss Edith Penville, whose work in her flute solos was brilliant indeed; by Mr. J. A. Meale, with his ever-popular "Storm at Sea" scena on the organ; by Mr. Wilson James, the humorist, in his song-skit on the old-time family encyclopædia, "Enquire Within Upon Everything," of which he publishes an up-to-date edition punctuated with laughs; and by Mr. George Blackmore, an entertainer of the lugubrious-looking sort, whose fun turns out to be all the richer by contrast with his visage, in, among other things, a drolly doleful ditty of a disillusioned Great War patriot, entitled "A Country Job." In fact all were hits, and the misses were missing—the usual story at these well-named "popular" concerts.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Mr. George Dyson's Suite for orchestra, "Siena," had a prominent place in the programme of the orchestral concert given by the Royal College of Music students in the Prince Consort-road hall on Tuesday of last week. The piece is descriptive, in an atmospheric sense, of the famous race for the Palio or standard, dating from mediæval times, which still takes place in the principal square in Siena each Feast of the Assumption. The race is a very lively affair indeed, and Mr. Dyson's piece, full of vigour and vitality and florid colour as it is, is a very successful attempt to produce a musical picture of the scene in its setting of excitable, vociferous Italian crowds under Italian summer sun and skies. The composer, in khaki, conducting, the piece was very well played by the orchestra, all things considered—though with a reservation regarding some unhappy moments provided by the brass—and it was received with acclamation.

The first work on the programme was Brahms' second symphony, and of this an enjoyable performance was given. Sir Charles Stanford directed at the outset, but retired half-way through, rather to the concern of the audience, who feared that the distinguished conductor was indisposed. But that there was no cause for alarm was evident when he reappeared later to conduct "There's a Bower of Roses" from his own work, "The Veiled Prophet." The song was charmingly sung by Miss Doris Tomkins. Another promising soprano, Miss Sarah Fischer, was heard in a dramatic reading of Debussy's "Air de Lia." Yet another conductor—making four with Sir Charles' unnamed deputy in the symphony—appeared in the closing work. This was Mr. Hugh Ross, who secured a capital performance of Franck's Symphonic Variations, with Mr. Charles Lofthouse, a pianist with a clean, neat touch and fluent style, in the solo part.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert given by Royal Academy of Music students at Queen's Hall on the 9th inst. was as fully representative as these functions usually are. Several instrumental soloists and some half-dozen singers took part in a programme whereon works by past pupils—a song by Sir A. C. Mackenzie among them—stood side by side with compositions written by those whose present task it is to carry on the ancient institution's honourable traditions; and of "classic" masters and distinguished musicians belonging to other lands and other schools there was a goodly list.

The fortune of a first performance by the excellent R.A.M. orchestra, under the conductorship of the principal, Sir A. C. Mackenzie himself, fell to Mr. Richard Newton's overture, "As You Like It"—a very promising effort—and to Miss Ethel Bilsland's Adagio and Scherzo for Pianoforte and Orchestra, which proved by no means deficient in interesting ideas skilfully and picturesquely carried out. Miss Lillian Southgate displayed a sympathetic touch and a graceful style in the pianoforte part. Miss Dorothy Chalmers, a young violinist, who undertook the solo part in two movements from the Brahms concerto, came through the ordeal with considerable credit, and Miss Hildegarde Arnold was equally successful in Dvorák's "Waldesruhe" for violoncello. Most of the singing was pleasing. Miss Molly Halse's pure, sweet voice was well used in an aria from "Der Freischütz"; solos from Coleridge-Taylor's "Hiawatha" were given by Miss Lucy Goodwin, another promising soprano, and Mr. C. A. Vincent-Jones, the possessor of a pleasant baritone; Miss Isobel McLaren showed good sustaining power and control in Delilah's first-act song from Saint-Saëns' opera; and Mr. Leonard Hubbard gave a thoughtful rendering of Sir A. C. Mackenzie's fine song, "The Walker of the Snow." Miss Jenny Roberts also sang during the afternoon, and Miss Olga Carmine was the pianiste in a movement from York Bowen's third concerto.

N.S.L. CONCERTS.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME.

A fine programme here on Sunday drew an attendance which tested the capacity of the house, standing room only being announced long before the time of commencement. Miss Myra Ison and Mr. G. H. Ison opened the proceedings with a pianoforte duet, "Dvorak's Slavonic Dance." Miss Florence Goole, a pupil of Mme. Newton, reflected great credit on her teacher in two numbers, Mr. W. Sanderson's "Spring's Awakening" and Mr. Herbert Oliver's "The Dancing Lesson." In the latter song Miss Goole was accompanied by the composer, Mr. Herbert Oliver. She is a gifted soprano, and gained rounds of applause for her sweet and clever singing. Mr. Oliver was to have presented "The Belle of the Ball," an operatic cycle, but owing to Mr. George Baker's indisposition he gave "The Pantomime," an excellent operette. Mr. Lloyd Shakespeare and Mr. Ernest Rutherford in a musical show were a big success, and Mr. Clarkson Rose appeared without Miss Olive Fox, but, despite this drawback, did well. Miss Jean Butt contributed some excellent violin work, and the programme was also contributed to by Mr. Norman Long, Miss Nellie Sallis, Mr. Murray Ashford, Miss Carrie Herwin, and Miss Ethel Dyer.

The British Music Society.

The first annual congress of the British Music Society will be held in London in May. There will be lectures in the morning, concerts and meetings in the afternoons and evenings, a reception and a banquet. The Society's year book and catalogue will be published during the early part of January.

THE CONCERT WORLD.

THE IRISH CLUB.

The usual crowded audience was again noticeable at the evening concert held in the club premises on Sunday last, when the customary high-class concert was contributed to by Mr. Jerome Murphy, Albert Jay, Vincent Ayden, Alan Johnstone, Arthur Mortimer, and Harry Morton.

Several artists made their first appearance at the Irish Club on this occasion; amongst others must be mentioned Miss Madge Gregory and Miss Beda Mallon, a soprano and contralto, whose voices blended perfectly in the duets, "Carmina" and "The Moon has Raised." Miss Edmund, another newcomer, was heard to advantage in "My Dear Soul" and "Rory Darling."

THE "STROLLING PLAYERS."

With their concert at Queen's Hall last Thursday, the Strolling Players Amateur Orchestral Society returned to their pre-war custom of a three-concert winter season. Mr. Joseph Ivimey was the conductor, as he has been for the last fifteen years, and no better proofs of the value of his directorship are needed than the Society's prosperity—greater than at any time in its life, now nearly four decades long—and the high standard of its performances. On Thursday the polish and precision and general "fineness" made the playing very enjoyable in the "Clock" symphony, in Max Bruch's G minor violin concerto, with Miss Adila d'Aranyi in the solo part, and in the "In Memoriam" overture. An interesting first performance was that of Mr. Henry Geehl's suite, "Prince Charlie," a work as picturesque as it is full of melodious charm. The composer, who conducted, had a gratifying reception. Mr. George Baker was the evening's singer.

Mme. May Walters must be a very busy individual, as apart from the numerous ladies' orchestras she is supplying to hotels and restaurants in Lodon and the provinces, she is responsible for the music at Tilley's Dance Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, whose floor will comfortably hold 2,500 people; the Ealing Town Hall dances, one of the most select in Suburbia; and Sherry's, at Brighton, which is credited with being the most luxurious ball-room in the kingdom. The Ohio Sextette Jazz Band, under the direction of Mme. Walters, are booked at Sherry's until next August.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC (Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883). Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W. Patron, His Majesty the King. President, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G. Director, Hugh P. Allen, Esq., M. A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Secretary, George A. Macmillan, Esq., D.Litt.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms from CLAUDE AVELING, Registrar.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC (Inst. 1872). President: The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury. Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, C.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D. Director of Examinations: E. F. Horner, Mus.D. The College is open to students of all degrees of proficiency in Music, including beginners, who may enter at any time and for any number of subjects. All modern systems of Instrumental Technique and of Vocal Training are taught, also Elocution, &c. Particulars of the Teaching Department, Scholarship Regulations, and the Syllabuses of the Higher and Local Examinations, on application. C. N. H. Rodwell, *Secretary*, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W. 1.

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THORNLEY-DODGE.

"THE VOICE IN THE STREET."

There has been another "first production" in Hull during the week, and it is worth noting. The reference is to Mr. Thornley-Dodge's "episode," produced in connection with Miss Margaret Cooper's visit to the "Lyric" with her company. This episode, called "The Voice in the Street," proves to be a work of considerable beauty, and it made a decided impression despite its sadly tragic ending. The piece is concerned with an officer who, dining alone at home through a friend failing, is suddenly seized with a fancy that a woman singing in the street with a voice unusually sweet shall fill the vacant chair. She enters—a woman who is also a lady—and as talk proceeds the host discovers that his brother and his guest's husband, killed three days before armistice, are one. The singer refuses to be helped, hurries back to the street, and resumes her song, to die singing, killed in the darkness by a motor-car. The two parts were played superbly by Mr. Dodge and Miss Gertrude Tomalin, and there is a further part played by Mr. R. B. Pittar, who knows how to make a butler a gentleman, and furthermore produced the play.—"Eastern Morning News," Dec. 13, 1919.

THIS WEEK—
EXMOUTH and TORQUAY.

The management of the Portman Dance Club—one of London's newest and most popular of dancers' haunts—has just accomplished something of which it is justly proud. The main dancing hall, with a floor area of over 4,000 square feet, has just been fitted with a new specially sprung parquet floor. The work took only six hours to complete, and there was no suspension of the dances, which have been held afternoon and evening continuously.

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TOURING CONCERT PARTIES.

NAME.	PROPRIETOR.	DEC. 15.	DEC. 22.	NEXT* VACANCY.
BING BOYS from France	Ernest A. Plumpton	Town Hall, Tamworth (3). Town Hall, Sutton (3).	Town Hall, Wednesbury.	
BREVITY	Richard Jerome	Kursaal, Whitley Bay.	Kursaal, Whitley Bay.	
BUBBLES	Gane & Morley	Assembly Rooms, Chester.		
BUMBLE PIERROTS	B. E. Lawrence	T.H., Lockerbie.		
GEMS, THE BRILLIANT	Ben Whitworth	King's Theatre, Oswestry.		
GIPSIES	Gane & Morley	Corn Exchange, Farnham.		
JOLLITY	Richard Jerome		Albert Hall, Stafford.	
NOBODIES		Town Hall, Stretford.		
OPTIMISTS	Will Catlin		Bradford.	
P.P.P.	Gane & Morley	Lecture Hall, Hull.	Midland Hotel, Manchester.	
POPPIES	Tissington & Craig	Montgomery Hall, Sheffield.	Montgomery Hall, Sheffield.	
ROYAL SCARLETS	Geo. Christian	National T., Mullingar.	Hippo., Lurgan.	
SUMMITS	Albert Lyon	A.P., Colwyn Bay.		
TOPICS	Lister Reekie	Pavilion, Derby.	Hippo., Bedminster.	
WITS	Richard Jerome	Anglesea Palace, Burton-on-Trent.		

* The charge for inserting date of next Vacancy in this column is 1/- per insertion prepaid.

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BILLY O'CONNOR

B. SHEREK.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1919.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR JANUARY 12 NOW DUE.

HARRY BAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Hooper and Warden present "Five Nights." 16 band parts required.

EDMONTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 5).—Hamlin, Jackson, and Owen, and company as booked.

MILE END EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Uniques, Jack, Harry, and Sadie, Phil and Archie, and company as booked.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Nestah.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—McDonald and Payne, Jock Printie, Melville and Meta, Eldon Trio, Coney Barr, Scott Argyll, The Girtons.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Lowenwirth and Cohen, Olga Sydney, Mozzetto, Vera Rooney, T. C. Eric, Maidie and Gent, Murphy and Mack.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—"Yes, Uncle."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Pierce and Roslyn, The Enzers, Dancing Madcaps, F. V. St. Clair, Ellis Jackson, Novita and Trent, Martelloni Troupe.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—"Buzz-Buzz."

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 6).—Newton and Heath, Bob Summers, Evelyn and Bransby.

PAISLEY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Hiawatha and Squaw, Mackenzie Murdoch, Jack Holden, Pharos, McLean Twins, Robb and Dixon, Walker's Juveniles.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY.—Hunter and Bab, Two Lillies and Sylvia, Lindon and Berridge, Rich Thomas, Bert Lytton, Bioscope, and company as booked.

CANNOCK HIPPODROME.—Furneau's company, in repertoire.

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE.—Algar and Lawrence, Irvin Mills, Four Fayes, Alfred Swift, Frank Keith, Bioscope, and company as booked.

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA.—Revue, "High Spirits."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Mrs. Kimberley's play, "Her Life of Pleasure."

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.
(See p. 23.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.
(See p. 17.)

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Morritt, Haydee's Marionettes, Gicardo, Harold Heath, Dalkeith, "Widow Who Would," Nelson Jackson, Jack Birchley.

BRADFORD.—Orpheus Comedy Trio, Julot and Piero, "After Many Years,"

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Professor Earle, Rich Taylor, James Bendon.

BURNLEY.—Roselle and Clifford, Sharp's Tromboneers, The Kratons, Lyric Male Quartette, The Getaway, Syd Moorhouse, Maie Irving.

CARLISLE.—Wilfred Burnand, Terry Wilson, Harvey Brinton, Fulgora, The Anserouls, Tom, Dick, and Harry, Connie Howard, Victoria Cornettie.

HALIFAX.—Phil Ascot Four, Jerry and Co., Roya, Alby Williams, Maggie McLean, Stewart Morton.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Ethel Castaldini, Theo. Ward, 'Erbert, "The Heathen," Russell and Durbin, Jean Alexander, Blanche and Boston.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Rosie Reys, Austin Sisters, Golda Quartette, Alfonzo, Wullie Durkin, "Dear Old Bean." Mullaney Bros.

WARRINGTON.—Albert Vivian Peake, De Busse, Myrtle and Pat, Little Niblo, Shirley Whyte, Alex. Mee and Co., Lue Joyce.

Rehearsal at all halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.
(See p. 20.)

STOLL TOUR.
(See p. 23.)

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Pauline O'Hagan.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Laurier, Frank Van Hoven, Mayne and Sheridan, Bacon and Carrington, Delino, Marie Nordstrom and Co., Bert Gilbert and Co., St. Juste and Higgins.

RAYMOND

is in Town.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA.—Wylie-Tate panto., "Cinderella" (2nd week), twice daily.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Geo. Sax's "Little Bo-Peep."

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Opening Tuesday, Dec. 23, with Rbt. Courtneidge's "Too Many Girls."

MANCHESTER PALACE.—Wylie-Tate panto., "Aladdin" (1st week), twice daily.

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Billy Myles' "Coming Down."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME.—Wylie-Tate panto., "Cinderella" (1st week), twice daily.

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing Dec. 19:—Clifford and Grey, Merles' Cockatoos, Bert Hughes' Cyclists; Goff Godfrey, Billy Reeves and Co., Marvin and Rhyde, Georges Carpentier, Sherlock Sisters and Clinton.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Lily Flexmore, Russell Carr, "A Man of Principle," Ada Reeve, Jock McKay, Hayman and Lowe, Ristori and Partner, Costa and Geo.

RAYMOND

Merriest of Magicians.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Wylie-Tate "Follies of 1919."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11.30).—"Cash on Delivery."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Harry Burns' "Forty Thieves."

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—H. Wellesley's "Jack and Jill."

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Keep 'Em Alive."

LEON VINT CIRCUIT.

BARRY DOCK PALACE.—"The Sleepwalker," Brett and Brenton.

LLANELLY PALACE.—"The Girl from Ciro's."

NEATH PALACE.—Nine Tiddleywinks, Three Merry Idlers.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

Rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock, except Weymouth, at 12.

CHEPSTOW PALACE.—Joyce and Shields and George Parr.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—Cecil Barth's company in "Betty at Bay."

SALISBURY PALACE.—Madge Velma and her Ruffles, Gyto, Priddoe and Assistant, The Veros.

RAYMOND

Master Magician.

WEYMOUTH BELLE VUE CINEMA.—Pictures.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Mizuno Family, Sisters Houghton, Newman and Wynne, Jean Schwiller and Dolaro, Hall and Turn.

WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Pictures.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Amac & Co., Ben Jackson.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Mlle. Margo, Clement May, Carmalii Brothers, Jack Warman, Four Black Diamonds, De Lilo Sisters.

ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—Cliff and Vanstan, Jack Stanley and His Pianist, Nevaid and Maxwell, Noel and Kay, The Bassos, Moister's Mannikins, The De Comas, Will Harvie, Fred Gwyn, Mavis Kenny, Hettie McCourt, Sidney A. Tilbury, Wyn Ray, Tommy Keele, Elsie Royal, The Snow Queen, Fred Kempton, The Osbournes, Victor Cedric.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Rubani Trio, Harry Shiels, Hinsle, Maclaine, Angel Blanco.

AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—Les Bastiens, Leslie Lynn and Co., Francis and Alfred, Daisy Collins, Claude Williams, Pat Clarke, Cambo and Castelle.

BATH PALACE THEATRE.—Armstrong and Howarth, Dorothy Storm, Wal and Lesby, Yetta and Assistant, Paul and Rags, Buckley and Partner, Bioscope, &c.

CHELTENHAM HIPPODROME.—Edith and Forbes, Menni, Highie Emerie, Marjorie Dennis, Florence Cooper, Butler and Barnes, Ernie Astor and Renie Astor, Bioscope, &c.

RAYMOND

King Laugh Maker.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Karno's "Mumming Birds," Calen and Emery, Geo. Logan, Kuba Quartette, Two Le Bergs.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Romanesca Quintette, Marcelle de Vere, Rosie and Mons. Dubin, Connie Browning, Donald and Carson, Bond Rowell, Jan de Martell.

FOLKESTONE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—Dolly Whiz, The Mayfairs.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Handy Andy."

GOOLE COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—The Burton-Elmore Enterprises present "Babes in the Wood."

GUILDFORD THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 2).—Herbert Shelley presents "A Mill Girl's Wedding." Panto. call: Arthur Watson's Co. in "Sinbad the Sailor."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Elliott Savonas, Johnson and Bert in "Crankite," Five Dorinos, Hanbury and Schofield, Rick Hayes, Lucy Brennan, Audrey Knight, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Eddie Brown.

LONDON BOW PALACE.—J. Adkins and Co., Vesta Fay, Gaby Rogers, Datas, Howell Chapter, Teddy Lotto, The McNaughtons, Lole Conn, Doris Pearce.

LONDON, CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL.—Lew Lake presents "The King of the Air."

LONDON CANTERBURY.—Joe Stevens, "The Silent Mystery," Layer Parker, "Elmo the Mighty," and the Lonsdale Brothers, &c. Will artists please note that no variety agent has the sole bookings for this hall.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—The Yale Four, Marie Estelle, Mark Coney, Gilbert and French, Frederick Culpitt, Van de Velde and Co.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Arthur Rigby's "Babes in the Wood."

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL (rehearsal, 3.30).—The O'Gorman Bros., Haley's Juveniles, Harry Taft, Charley Meteor Trio, Harry Ray, Bob Griffiths, Musical Lento, The Woodwards.

READING PALACE THEATRE.—"Beauty," Harry Rogers, Fosco, Koten Ichi Troupe, Spitari, Pathé Gazette, W. P. Wentley, George Schreck.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Talbot O'Farrell, Warsaw Brothers, The Mandos, Syd Crossley, Gwen Bremner, Irene Shamrock, Jack Patterson, Daimler and Eadie, Evelyn Brewster.

SALFORD REGENT.—Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Bo-Peep."

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE THEATRE.—Edis Bro. and Jacobson, Dane and Mark, Derry and Sloane, Horace Barnes, Lola, Henry Adams, I. Devon, Bioscope, &c.

STIRLING ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 1).—The Scotch Ronalds, The Laurelsa Quintette, Sisters McDermott, Jock Harris, Chris. Kenny, The Neptune Quintette, Cowper Bros.

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE THEATRE.—Osborne and Perryer, Vivian Foster, Betty Bruce, Alcide Captaine, Bunny and Dawe, Jack Kellino, Alan Stuart, Pathé Gazette, Joe and Betty Binns.

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Yvonne Granville.

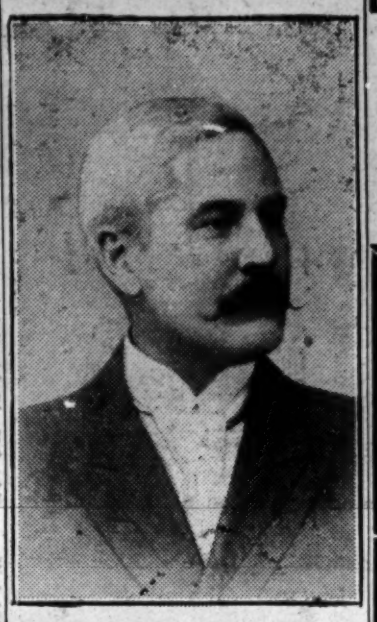
Last week, at Hackney, Yvonne Granville met with enthusiastic receptions. After playing at Cardiff this week Mlle. Granville goes to the Folies Marigny, Paris, for one month, where she has been engaged by Mr. de Courville. When she returns to London to open at the Palladium, Mlle. Granville is presenting an entirely new show, with wonderful new dresses and specially written character-songs. We hear, by the way, that Mlle. Granville has signed a contract to appear on the films for the Regal Co. next February.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

DEATH.

NICHOLLS.—Edwin Nicholls (Teddy Myles), comedian, late of Myles & May, died suddenly, age 55, Saturday, December 13, at Albert Hotel, Oldham-street, Manchester. Friends kindly accept this intimation.

IN MEMORIAM.



FRANK HEATH.

In fond memory of our dear one who left us December 16, 1908. Your name ever on our lips, dear, your memory ever green in our hearts. R.I.P.

COLLIER.—In memory of my beloved wife, Lizzie Collier, who passed away Dec. 22, 1914. Missed more every day by Connie and self, A. C. Hardie.

VAN HOVEN

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HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

During the last few weeks an army of workmen have been engaged in re-decorating this popular theatre, and it is now resplendent with gold and art colours, the result being very bright and pleasing to the eye. An excellent programme is being presented this week. Harry Thurston tops the bill with "Lucky Old Bill," and the part of Old Bill the Walrus, which Harry has played over 5,000 times, is a fine bit of character acting, the playlet being very entertaining throughout. The Osborne Trio are clever equilibrists, and Clown Argo is a good animal mimic. Dorothy Lena sang her latest success, "Oh, Lordy, How I Want to be With You," and won the hearts of her audience by her eccentric dance. Frank Leo sang with success "I Get a Living by Picking Up the Paper in the Park," "I Do Like an Egg for My Tea," and "Where do Flies Go in the Winter-time?"

Carlotta Nossetta and Partner give a very fine dancing turn. T. E. Dunville, the popular comedian, sang in his usual dry and droll method, and with his usual success. Kuming and Windsor were heard in "I Love the Songs My Mother Sang to Me," and great fun was caused when the lady violinist turned out to be a man. Charles Whittle, always a favourite, sang "The Wild Women" and "There is no Place Like Home when there is No Where Else to Go."

Illness of George Parrott.

We regret to hear of the serious illness of Mr. George Parrott, who is suffering from the effects of a neglected influenza attack, which has resulted in complete nervous breakdown, eczema, and septic poisoning. The doctor advises absolute rest for a month, after which, when able to travel, a change either to the country or the sea.

"Dear old George," as he is affectionately called by a legion of friends made during nearly 23 years as keeper of the Alhambra stage door, has been slightly ailing for some time past, and all who know him will wish him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. "George" wishes to thank the principal members of the "Eastward Ho!" company for their kind inquiries and gifts, Miss Violet Loraine for gifts of flowers, fruit, game, etc., and also Mr. Bertram Ilis, the Alhambra manager. Mr. and Mrs. Parrott celebrate the 5th anniversary of their marriage on the 19th of this month. Their address is 19, Park-mansions, Vauxhall-park, S.W. 8.

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A New Musical Play. By Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse. Additional lyrics by Clifford Grey. Music by Ivan Caryll.

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DAISY ELLISTON. FRANK ATTREE.
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from Jan. 1, 1920.
2, ROBERT-ST., ADELPHI, STRAND, W.C. 2. Increased subscription. Members are reminded that it was decided at the 1919 general meeting to increase the annual minimum subscripton to 2s. as from 1920.

I, ARTHUR KREMER, intend to apply to the London County Council for a license to carry on an Employment Agency for Theatrical, Variety, and Cinema Artists at 25, Litchfield-street, Charing Cross-road, such agency to be known as Kremer's Agency. All objections and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W. 1 within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

Re Tom Sidney Craven Thornton, decd.

Pursuant to the Act of Parliament 22nd and 23rd Vic. Cap. 35, intituled an Act to further amend the law of property and to relieve Trustees.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all creditors and other persons having any debts, claims, or demands upon or against the Estate of Tom Sidney Craven Thornton, late of 25, Temple Sheen-road, East Sheen, in the County of Surrey, actor (professionally known as Tom Craven), deceased, who died on the 5th day of August, 1919, and to whose Estate Letters of Administration with the will and two Codicils annexed were granted by the Principal Probate Registry of His Majesty's High Court of Justice on the third day of December, 1919, to Geoffrey Paget, of 4, Bartholomew-lane, in the City of London, Manager of the Trustee Department, and duly appointed syndic of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, the Executor therein named, are hereby required to send in the particulars in writing of their claims and demands to us the undersigned, the Solicitors for the said Executor, on or before the 20th day of January, 1920, after which date the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the debts, claims, and demands of which the said Geoffrey Paget shall have had notice, and he, as the duly appointed syndic of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims and demands he shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 11th day of December, 1919.
JOHN H. MOTT & SON.
11, Gray's Inn-square, W.C. 1.
Solicitors for the said Geoffrey Paget, the duly appointed syndic of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, in respect of the Estate of the above deceased.

FUNDS, Etc.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND, 8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND, W.C.2. C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
THIRD LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

	£	s.	d.
The Arts Club, Manchester	30	0	0
Robertson, Lady Forbes	15	15	0
Grand Theatre and Opera House, Leeds	15	2	11
Coats, Miss E. D.	15	0	0
Findon, B. W. ("Play Pictorial")	10	10	0
Sievier, Miss R., per Mr. F. Terry	10	0	0
"Better 'Ole" Co., Brixton Theatre	8	0	0
Officers and N.C.O.'s, Military Police Force, Calais, in Memory of Corporal Cleasy, Actor	6	8	7
Carson, Lionel	5	5	0
Sassoon, David R.	5	5	0
Bell, Stanley	5	0	0
Terry, Ellen	5	0	0
Melville, Walter and F.	5	0	0
Bradshaw, G., per Mr. Geo. Shelton	5	0	0
Rivington, Constance	5	0	0
Gawthorne, Peter	5	0	0
Blackford, Lottie and Nessi	3	10	0
Harvey, J. Martin	3	2	0
Brett, R. C., The Late	3	0	0
Lester, Alfred	2	2	0
Stewart, Charles	2	2	0
Swan, Dr.	2	2	0
Benson, Sir Frank	1	1	0
Nicholls, Harry	1	1	0
Proctor, E. V.	1	1	0
Warde, George, In Memory of	1	1	0
South Shields Amateur Operatic Co.	1	1	0
Barrow Amateur Operatic Co.	1	1	0
Denville, Alfred	1	1	0
Katz, R.	1	1	0
Kingsbury, Rev. Evelyn	1	1	0
Smith, D. A. C.	1	1	0
Gillett, A. Scott	1	1	0
King, W. R.	1	1	0
Goddard, Alfred	1	1	0
Cabourne, John	1	1	0
Low, Miss Louisa	1	1	0
Gay, Mr. Chas.	1	1	0
Adeson, Martin	1	1	0
Miller, J. Ellis	1	1	0
Morand, M. R.	1	1	0
McCarthy, Miss Lillah	1	1	0
Danby, Miss A.	1	1	0
Hartford, W. S.	1	0	0
Anonymous, per Mr. Geo. Graves	1	0	0
Pond, Chas.	1	0	0
Beeley, Rev.	1	0	0
Burton, John	0	10	6
Martin, Miss Edie	0	10	6
de Soza, Rachael	0	10	6
Pitt, Felix	0	10	6
Blande, Miss Edith	0	10	6
Webster, Miss Davis	0	10	0
Pelly, Frank E.	0	10	0
Bonfield, Edward	0	10	0
Chester, Edward	0	10	0
Willson, Osmond	0	10	0
Beresford, Isobel	0	10	0
Under 10s.:— Miss G. Walker, Miss Beatrice Grosvenor			
Box Collections:—			
E. H. Bull, Mr.	10	0	0
Grand Theatre, Southampton	1	18	0
Alfred Lester, Mr.	1	9	6
Adelphi Stage Door	0	6	6
Autographs:—			
Lady Wyndham (Miss Mary Moore)	1	2	6
J. Martin Harvey, Mr.	6	18	3
St. James's Theatre: Collected by Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley:—			
Helmsley, C. T. H.	2	2	0
Roe, Bassett	1	1	0
Gardner, S.	1	1	0
Lindsay, James	1	1	0
Robertson, Ian	1	1	0
Dagrall, E.	1	1	0
Lyle, Lyston	1	1	0
Robinson, Miss Fellowes	1	1	0
Keitley, Percival	1	1	0
Maclachlan, R.	1	1	0
Batson, J. Hastings	0	10	6
Baverstock, Percy	0	10	6
Sums under 10s.:— Buchanan, Miss M.; Cochrane, Elsie; Lang, Lindon; Paget, Miss D.	0	17	6
Duke of York's List, per Mr. Douglas M'Lar:—			
Millar, Douglas	1	1	0
Imbert, Douglas	1	1	0
Blanche, E.	1	1	0
Palmer, Ada	0	12	6
Milner, Geoffrey	0	10	6
Jerome, Max	0	10	6
Courtneidge, Chas.	0	10	6
Sums under 10s.:— Hodgson, Phebe; Drake, Major; Baker, H.; Holn, G.; Gordon, M. B.	0	18	6

C. I. COLTSON.
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ACTORS' ORPHANAGE MATINEE.

"TRUANTS IN FAIRYLAND."
A Fairy Play, in One Act, by Sybil Noble. Music Composed by Captain M. Williams.

Joan ..... Joan Snow
Dick ..... Mimosa White
Dr. Whack ..... Rosalind Wade
Miss Prim ..... Eileen Castle
The Dragon ..... Winifred Rawlings
Queen of the Bluebells .. Carol Wilton
1st Bluebell ..... Beryl Hutchison
2nd Bluebell ..... Rhoda O'Dea
1st Goblin ..... Jean Kenning
2nd Goblin ..... Diana Cator
A Teapot ..... Joan Campbell

The seasonable little play, in two scenes, named above was the principal item in the programme given on the 9th inst. at Wyndham's Theatre by the students of the Jeanne d'Enereaz School of Dancing and Dramatic Art in aid of the Actors' Orphanage. It was a simple little affair, based upon a familiar theme, but it gave some excellent opportunities for acting and dancing to the young students. The two children who slipped down the crack behind the bookcase into fairyland were played most attractively by Joan Snow and Mimosa White. For such young people they exhibited a feeling of naturalness and ease that was quite refreshing. Both possess a keen sense of fun, and really gave the air of being truants. Rosalind Wade's humour as Dr. Whack was a trifle forced. Both she and Eileen Castle (who played Miss Prim, the governess) were better in the dancing items in the earlier part of the afternoon. Carol Wilton was a very pretty Queen of the Bluebells.

Preceding the play there were some entertaining items. Particularly good were Rosalind Wade's dance in kilts; the scena entitled "The Nymph and the Hunter," in which Rosalind Wade and Jean Kenning appeared; Joan Snow's deliciously rendered song, "How 'Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?"; and the last-named little lady's clever "coster" duet with Mimosa White. The vocal contributions by Miss Anita de Escobar, especially the well-rendered cavatina from "Il Trovatore," were also greatly appreciated.

A delightful feature of the afternoon was the huge Christmas tree in the vestibule of the theatre, laden with gifts for the Orphanage, with Miss Teddie Gerrard in charge.

THEATRICAL LADIES' GUILD.

HELPED BY ROYALTY.

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of this Guild was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the St. James's Theatre (by kind permission of Mr. Henry Ainley and Mr. Gilbert Miller). Miss Irene Vanbrugh presided, and there was a large attendance, which included the Princess Royal, who was accompanied by Princess Maud.

Miss Vanbrugh having referred in sympathetic terms to the death of the founder of the Guild, Mrs. C. L. Carson,

Dame May Whitty, in moving the adoption of the report, reminded her hearers that the Guild assisted actors as well as actresses, stage hands, women employed in the theatres, and their respective families when in straitened circumstances. In still worse cases the Guild provided fire, food, blankets, and clothing, and also clothes and dresses for stage wear, which enabled many poor actors and actresses to obtain engagements. It had been their privilege also to help demobilised soldiers, who, prior to joining the Army, had been actors, by useful gifts of clothes. In all, some 6,658 cases were relieved during the year, and the sum of £206 was spent in this particular work. Miss Louise Stopford, founder and president of the Stage Needlework Guild, and her band of associates, had come to the committee's aid, not only with garments, but with a cheque for £250 to be spent on clothing. The Guild desired most gratefully to acknowledge a grant of 300 garments from the London Needlework Guild and 200 from the Middlesex Needlework Guild.

Miss Viola Tree seconded the report, and Miss Stopford, who supported, mentioned that Her Majesty the Queen had sent them seventy-two articles of apparel.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier made a humorous but none the less sincere plea for old clothes, and Miss Braithwaite appealed for funds. Miss Eva Moore asked for support in money and kind for the great jumble sale which ladies of the profession are holding at Caxton Hall on Feb. 23. Miss Vane Featherston, who helped Mrs. Carson's Christmas Dinner Fund for many years by giving tea parties at the Queen's Hall, begged for donations to continue the good work, and Mrs. Alfred Bishop acknowledged the thanks accorded to the "Bee" workers.

Mr. Ainley moved a vote of thanks to the Princess for presiding and presenting badges. Lady Tree proposed thanks to the Press, to which Mr. Chance Newton replied. On the motion of Miss Fay Compton Messrs. Ainley and Miller were thanked for lending the theatre.

A collection made on behalf of the Guild by ladies of the profession, headed by Miss Lilian Braithwaite, realised the sum of £214, which included £20 from her Royal Highness.

COVENT GARDEN OPERA.

"NAIL."

The musical attractions of Mr. Isidore de Lara's Oriental opera, "Nail," grow with better acquaintance, as was made clear with its revival by the Beecham Opera Company on Tuesday of last week. The work had its first London production during the summer season, and it was now played by the same cast as before and again had the advantage of Sir Thomas Beecham's direction. Good as the orchestra's playing was in the earlier performances, there was more security last week, and the polished and picturesque score consequently made greater effect. Likewise, on the stage, the benefit of repeated rehearsals was made manifest, particularly in the three exacting principal rôles. Miss Rosina Buckman (in beautiful voice), Mr. Frank Mullings, and Mr. Percy Heming, now thoroughly at ease, sang and acted with such power and passion as to carry conviction in the dramatic scenes between Nail, the dancing-girl, and her two lovers, Hadyar and the Emir. They were recalled over and over again at each curtain-fall. Miss Doris Lemon's charming singing as Iria, Mr. Walter Hyde's vivid performance of the Narrator's song, Mr. Foster Richardson's sketches of the Marabout and Taleb, Mr. Powell Edwards' characteristic and humorous Negro, were all excellent. A special word goes to the new and exceedingly graceful "veil" dances, in which Miss Phyllis Bedells appears with Miss Eily Gerald and Miss Louise Maisie in the chief parts.

The Margaret Morris children's season at the theatre in King's-road, Flood-street, Chelsea, will start on Saturday, Dec. 20. Performances will be given daily at 3, and Thursday and Friday evenings at 8.30 of "Puss in Boots," a fairy play acted by children, and "The Princess and the Swineherd."

STAGE SOCIETY PRODUCTION.

"THE REPROBATE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Henry James. Produced at the Court Theatre, on Sunday, Dec. 14.

Cubit ..... Ben Field
Mrs. Freshville .....Athene Seyler
Pitt Brunt, M.P. ..Lawrence Hanray
Mr. Bonsor ..... Brember Wills
Paul Doubleday ....Nicholas Hannen
Blanche Amber .....Meggie Albanesi
Mrs. Doubleday ....Suzanne Sheldon
Captain Chanter ....Herbert Bunston

Although lacking much that is clearly necessary to make a good play, Mr. Henry James's three-act comedy, "The Reprobate," produced by the Stage Society at the Royal Court Theatre last Sunday evening, and again on Monday afternoon, gave us two and a half hours of delight, amusement, and stimulation. But one man could have written "The Reprobate"; the perfection of its style, its delicate elusiveness, its complexity, and its beautiful polished dialogue could come only from the pen of Henry James. It is its complexity and elusiveness that will cause its comparative failure as a play, yet make it so infinitely attractive as a work of art. The period chosen is that of the far-off, fascinating eighties, with its side whiskers and its pomposity, its bustles and fringes, and its terrific elders. Here we have them in all their charm, especially the parents and guardians, whose word was law. Mrs. Doubleday, the parent, is a mature stepmother, plump and comely, and delightfully coy with her middle-aged admirer, dashing Captain Chanter, boasting all the airs and graces of the military "swell." Mr. Bonsor, the guardian, is another type, taken seriously enough in those days, but considered now as a richly humorous specimen of humanity, stern, pompous, infallible, horribly antipathetic to youth. The reprobate is Paul, the stepson of Mrs. Doubleday, and the ward of Mr. Bonsor. He is a man of thirty, supposed to be the victim of an hereditary tendency to vice. Once in his life he has had his fling, and flung as far as Paris in the company of a lady from the halls called Nina—Nina the unspeakable, the meretricious, and the alluring. Conscience has made more than a coward of Paul Doubleday; it has turned him into a poor, crushed worm without a turn in him, bullied into pitiable submission by the brow-beating Mr. Bonsor and his overbearing step-mama. Release comes through two women, naughty, vulgar, enchanting Nina, and an advanced girl of the period, Blanche Amber, Mr. Bonsor's attractive niece. In the mid-Victorian drawing-room of Mr. Bonsor's villa at Hampton Court, Nina stumbles across one past in her search for another, and is quite ready to make the best of either to the advantage of the present. Through her wiles and the frankness and encouragement of pretty Blanche, as well as the unconscious aid of Captain Chanter, Paul completes his emancipation. He takes train to London, spends a riotous twenty hours in the metropolis, and returns clothed in the latest mode and laden with expensive presents, for which step-mama must pay. Parent and guardian are subjugated by the spirit of youth and independence; Captain Chanter is reunited to his "haughty doubting dear," the widow Doubleday; Nina gaily consoles herself with a fresh admirer, a member of Parliament, cartooned as "The Pride of the North" (very well played by Mr. Lawrence Hanray); while the Reprobate is claimed and won by the exquisite Miss Amber.

The subtly drawn characters were admirably cast. Miss Athene Seyler has done nothing better than her gay, self-possessed, common and engaging Nina, which she played with a singularly delicate sense of comedy. Delightful, too, was the Blanche Amber of Miss Meggie Albanesi, the young girl who united charm with common sense. Miss Suzanne Sheldon was excellent as the stately Widow Doubleday. A clever impersonation of Paul was given by Mr. Nicholas Hannen, but to us he conveyed more the impression of a man repressed from his youth than one who had indulged in a scarlet episode and repented at leisure. Capital was the gallant Captain of Mr. Herbert Bunston and the Butler of Mr. Ben Field; while we have seldom enjoyed a more finished, innately humorous performance than the Mr. Bonsor of Mr. Brember Wills.

The part of Percy in "Tilly of Bloomsbury" at the Apollo Theatre, lately played by Mr. Frank Hector, is now being sustained by Mr. Arthur J. Denton.

Mr. James Bernard Fagan will give two performances daily at the Court Theatre of "The Merchant of Venice" from Boxing Day to Saturday, Jan. 3.

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THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1919.

THE LADIES' NIGHT.

A Record Year.

BRILLIANT indeed was the idea which suggested the admission of the feminine element to the Actors' Benevolent Fund activities. It was shown first in the appointment of Lady WYNDHAM to the office of president; and the annual dinner on Sunday—the first since the great war—was adorned by actresses of the highest rank. What good purpose was served by restricting the attendance at the annual festival to the sterner sex can never be known; it is sufficient to state that the 1919 celebration constituted a record subscription to the Fund.

Hitherto staid speeches have been delivered at length by dignitaries of the drama, and toasts innumerable have been drunk. On Sunday the toasts were confined to two, both brief and bright, and scarcely had they ended when the floor was taken by many couples for dancing. Thus we saw indulging in the intricacies of the dance such favourite artists as GLADYS COOPER and CYRIL MAUDE, MARIE LOHR and GERALD DU MAURIER, FAY COMPTON and DENNIS EADIE, VIOLA TREE and ALLAN AYNESWORTH, MAY WHITTY and BEN WEBSTER, MABEL RUSSELL, LILIAN BRAITHWAITE, and ALICE DELYSIA—all imbued with enthusiasm for the cause. It was, in effect, the assertion of the superiority of women which the war had revealed; it was the spirit of victory expressing itself through the medium of the waltz and the one-step to a riot of music, with vocal effects of an extraordinary character, supplied by a coloured band.

"To the women we owe the position we are in to-day," claimed MR. DU MAURIER, amid enthusiastic applause, and, thus encouraged, added: "We won the war through the women." It was all very new and very strange to the old habitué of the A.B.F. dinner, but it achieved a record for the coffers of the Fund.

Nor was this the only change noticeable. In his appeal for the Fund, MR. DU MAURIER put questions to his listeners by their Christian names, and to his query as to whether they would support the cause of the actor who had fallen by the way came such direct answers from celebrities of the stage as: "Yes, Gerald," "Yes, Sergeant," "Certainly, my dear Gerald," which, while having a whimsical effect, gave abundant proof of the sincerity of interest in the cause.

Artists and Charity Performances.

Of even greater significance was the point made later on by the Chairman. In times past it has been urged that artists performing for charity should make a condition that a percentage of the receipts should be allocated to the professional funds, and the result, it must be confessed, has been practically negligible. MR. DU MAURIER takes the opposite view. "Give all or give nothing," he contended. MR. DU MAURIER may be said to have given as much in value towards charitable causes as any man or woman breathing, and if he is willing to continue so to give without any return for his own charity, all is well. But we think that the public should be given an opportunity of showing their gratitude for favours received. The Fund, it appears to us, might make a wider appeal on its festival day. Provincial managers and managers touring the country might be invited personally to grace the festive board. They in their turn would invite friends—not necessarily professional—who would be only too glad to open their hearts and their purses in response to the appeal of the unfortunate actor, and in that way the demand for a share of all charity performances might be rendered unnecessary. We commend this suggestion to the notice of the executive.

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

Music and Romance at the Ambassadors'—A Revivifying Revival.

"SYLVIA'S LOVERS."

A Light Opera, by Bernard Rolt, Libretto by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, Lyrics by Bernard Rolt, Produced at the Ambassadors Theatre on Wednesday, Dec. 10.

Stanislas ..... Mr. Patrick Byrne
Amadeo ..... Mr. Henry Caine
Trivelin ..... Mr. Theo Agar
Count Achémar Meronville Thounois de Thon .....Mr. Christian Morrow
Pompey ..... Mr. M. Wilson
Hector ..... Mr. Pitt Chatham
Achille ..... Mr. R. Vincent
Germain .....Mr. John Bateman
Gervais ..... Mr. Charles Lamb
Jacquot .....Mr. Joe Nightingale
Princess Clementine de Bourdaloue Miss Betty Chester
Mademoiselle Elizabeth de Feyron Miss Beryl Freeman
The Duchess Dowager de Feyron Miss Lena Maitland
Chanoinesse de Bruya Miss Ann Desmond
Marquise de Sainte Eustache Miss Sybil Coulthurst
Baronne de Rayo ....Miss Dora Rozelli
Mademoiselle de Loubens Miss Irma Perry
Rosine ..... Miss Clara Booth
Marton ..... Miss Marguerite Lister
Justine ..... Miss Edith Bartlett
Sylvia ..... Miss Desirée Ellinger

There is so much to delight the eye and so much to satisfy the appetite for romance in a picture of a "Ruritanian" principality (called on this occasion Lonneville) in the romantic age of powder, wig, and crinoline that it is little wonder this period should form the happy hunting-ground for many a librettist of light opera. It is back to this fascinating period that "Sylvia's Lovers" wafts us, and as an example of comic opera is very nearly a perfect one, light, delicate, and exquisitely picturesque. Mr. Bernard Rolt's music, without attaining any great height of distinction, avoids the commonplace throughout, with moments here and there of brilliance, and is seductively melodious, and orchestrated with skill. But perhaps above all it will be the colour of the picture that will draw all London to the Ambassadors—the quaintly designed costumes, the pannier frocks, and hooped skirts that present an almost bewildering spectacle of gorgeous and fantastic hues.

Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox's book, an adaptation from the French of Marivaux, tells a story of one Prince Stanilas, who must perforce marry within a fortnight on pain of forfeiting his crown in favour of his cousin, a Corsican nobleman, and how he meets, woos, and wins Sylvia, a wild country maid, his princehood unbeknown to her the while. As Sylvia, Miss Desirée Ellinger, whose reappearance in London after her triumph in "Madame Angot" has been eagerly waited, sang with the consummate ease of the artist she undoubtedly is, and played the untamed, fiery country wench with alluring charm, power, and pathos.

Baritone's Successful Début.

Another artist whose appearance was particularly interesting was Mr. Patrick Byrne, an Irish baritone, who was making his stage début. As a first performance his interpretation of the Prince lover was remarkable. He cut a princely figure, and used his fine voice with discretion and restraint. We would have liked to have heard more solos from him; as it is, he has only one, a haunting waltz refrain that recurs throughout the piece, and will soon be hummed and whistled everywhere. One of the hits of the evening was Miss Betty Chester's Princess Clementine, a thoroughly comic and delicious piece of burlesque. As chief mirth-provoker she carried off the honours. Mr. Joe Nightingale's country yokel was also vastly amusing, and he made an excellent foil to Miss Chester. As Amadeo, Mr. Henry Caine gave a brilliant little cameo of a firebrand Corsican, and the éclat and spirit he infused into the quartette, "Just My Way," roused the house to heights of enthusiasm. The very competent chorus disposes of the theory that, if such be chosen for their beauty, you must thereby sacrifice vocal ability.

"ARMS AND THE MAN."

By Bernard Shaw. Revived at the Duke of York's Theatre, Thursday, Dec. 11.

Raina ..... Stella Mervyn Campbell
Catherine Petkoff .. Beverly Sitgreaves
Louka ..... Dorothy Holmes-Gore
Captain Bluntschli .... Robert Loraine
Russian Officer ..... Gordon Bailey
Nicola ..... Arthur Whitby
Major Paul Petkoff .... M. R. Morand
Major Sergius Saranoff Gerald Lawrence

Produced originally over a quarter of a century ago—to be precise, on April 21, 1894—at the Avenue Theatre (now the Playhouse), Mr. George Bernard Shaw's delightfully fantastic, ironic, topsy-turvy play, "Arms and the Man," is every whit as stimulating now as it was twenty-five years ago. It is not a play for the sentimentalist—but the sentimentalist, i.e., the creator of false values, is, we hope and believe, rapidly becoming a back number—and in the true Shavian way it lays undue stress on the seamy side of life, tries erroneously to make us believe that the seamy side represents life as a whole. But we have grown cautious since the world-upheaval and can estimate heroics and "psychological extravaganza" at their true worth to-day. We can enjoy the irony, the sparkling satire and the inimitable humour and yet realise that the author has deliberately set himself out to represent merely a sordid aspect of warfare, and that the other side is there and is as real and as true as the view set forth in Mr. Shaw's whimsical fantasy.

That the audience en masse was delighted to renew their acquaintance with the simple, matter-of-fact, honest Captain Bluntschli, the romantic humbugs Raina Petkoff and Major Sergius Petkoff, and the outspoken Louka, the most cleverly drawn character in the play, there could be no doubt. Every shaft of wit went home and brought shouts of laughter and volleys of applause, while at the conclusion emphatic calls for "Author" produced a short speech from Mr. Loraine, with the assurance that for once he could truthfully say that the author was not in the house.

Mr. Loraine put some particularly fine acting into the part of the hero, the "chocolate-cream soldier," quietly convincing, beautifully unstrained, and with a touch of comedy that could not have been bettered. Excellent, too, was the humour of Mr. Gerald Lawrence's Sergius, the picturesque, self-analytical humbug, and a Louka of much cleverness and interest was presented by Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore, who acquitted herself admirably of a difficult feat. Miss Stella Mervyn Campbell was charming in the first act as the romantic Raina, but she missed something of the slyness of the character in the later scenes. Mr. Arthur Whitby was a capital Nicola, and thoroughly good work was done by Miss Beverly Sitgreaves and Mr. M. R. Morand as Petkoff mère et père.

"THE SONS OF GOD."

"In remembrance of those who have fallen and in thanksgiving for those who have been spared," "The Sons of God," the second part of Mrs. Margaret Meredith's oratorio, "The At-one-ment," was given at Central Hall on Saturday afternoon. "Greater love hath no man" is the text of both sections. The first deals with Christ's sacrifice; the second with those who have "shared in the world-sacrifice for the world-redemption." Mrs. Meredith attacks a great subject with a fervour and a loftiness of purpose that create an inspiring spiritual atmosphere.

As in her other works, the composer's gift for broad, gracious melody stands her in good stead. The stirring march, "Answer the Call," and the expressive contralto solo, "Of Thy Great Compassion," are both characteristic numbers in their widely different ways. In her part-writing she gains effects with simple but always musicianly means. Mrs. Meredith, who was warmly complimented at the close of the concert, played the pianoforte part, and Mr. J. A. Meale officiated at the organ.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Round the World at the Chatelet—Melodrama at the Theatre Sarah Bernhardt—War Tax Receipts.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Dec. 14.—In the Chatelet's latest production, staged last Thursday, we are treated to a series of adventures by globe-trotters. An American heiress has many suitors, and as she wishes to be loved for herself alone she takes a place as a type-writer, while a fortune-hunter hits on the wrong track and follows another lady, poor and plain, who has a mania for travelling. Thus we visit Strasbourg just at the time the French first enter the city, which forms a patriotic tableau enthusiastically applauded. We see Egypt and the Pyramids, where there is a splendid ballet; Africa, where Malikoko, the Cannibal King, reigns supreme; Paris, with the Eiffel Tower, and end in the South of France, when the real heiress discloses her identity and marries the man who courted her as a simple maid. A negro ballet, costumed in black, white and gold, has a charming effect.

"Le Maison Cernée."

The four-act piece by Pierre Frondaie, in which others claim to have assisted, was finally offered for public approval on Friday at the Theatre Sarah Bernhardt, and proved somewhat disappointing. Something stronger was expected from the author of "Montmartre." It is supposed to be an English story. Lieutenant Gordon is in love with Lady Ward, who has a deep affection for the young fellow, her former playmate. We are in Palestine during the war, and all the characters are near Palestine. Gordon is a favourite of Colonel Ward, husband of Lady Ward. He knew Gordon's father, and was in a way responsible for some misfortune which happened in the family. But that is vaguely referred to at the end. Gordon is sent on a special mission, and prior to his departure Lady Ward sends for him to say good-bye. Their love is platonic, but excites the jealousy of a wicked Major, who, unfortunately for the lovers, is passing with a patrol and detects a Turkish maidservant, thought to be a spy, admitting Gordon into the Colonel's home. He thereupon surrounds the house, so that poor Gordon is unable to leave on his mission without betraying a pure woman's honour. Although Lady Ward's own brother undertakes the mission Gordon is arrested, and to save Lady Ward accuses himself of all sorts of ungentlemanly acts. The Colonel reluctantly orders him to be shot as a traitor, but he is saved by Lady Ward confessing the truth. Finally the poor Colonel is shot in battle, and on his deathbed unites the quasi-guilty couple. This moving picture scenario is hardly up to the standard of this fashionable theatre. It is admirably played, with Mlle. Michelle as Lady Ward, who was so affected on the first night that in the second act she actually fainted on the stage. She continued in her rôle after a short pause, and met with an ovation.

The Amusement Tax.

The proceeds of the war tax on places of amusement in France for the eleven months of 1919, to Nov. 30, amount to over 19,807,000 frs., the Budget estimates last year having been only 11 millions. There is a possibility of the war tax being increased next session.

Forthcoming Events.

The new theatre which Gustave Quinson is to build in the Rue Daunou is now in hand, and will be ready next season.

"Les Goyescas," ballet, by the late Enrique Granadas, the Spanish composer, who was killed when the Germans torpedoed the Channel steamer Sussex, will be mounted shortly by M. Rouché at the Opera. It is expected the Queen of Spain will attend the première.

A new play, "La Chasse à l'Homme," by Maurice Donnay, will be presented at the Theatre des Varietés by Max Maury about Christmas.

Boito's "Mefistofile" is being rehearsed at the Theatre Lyrique (ex-Vaudeville).

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

New Musical Comedy at the Vanderbilt—"The Son-Daughter"—A Cinderella on Strike—A Minstrel Celebration.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

"Irene," a musical comedy by James Montgomery, author of "Going Up" and "Nothing But the Truth," has met with success at the Vanderbilt. Edith Day, the "tickle toe girl" of "Going Up," has the title-rôle. The music is by Harry Tierney, and the lyrics by Joseph McCarty. The action, in two acts and seven scenes, alternates between two Long Island homes and a Ninth-avenue tenement. Miss Day plays a shop girl, who becomes a model for a fashionable modiste, and has to ape the manners of high society. She not only realises to the full the humorous possibilities of the part, but sings and dances delightfully. Bobbie Watson wins lots of applause for his droll and skilful dancing, and is very amusing as a man-modiste, known as Mme. Lucy. The best musical numbers are "Irene," "Alice Blue Gown," "The Talk of the Town," and "Sky Rocket."

Manchurian Melodrama.

This is a drama of new China, with the scenes all laid in New York, and the characters all Chinese. There are three acts, with three scenes in the last. The play concerns the fortunes of a Chinese prince in America, whose followers in far-off China are in revolt against the Manchu dynasty. He loves and is beloved by the beautiful Lien Wha, but it is impossible that they should marry, for the revolutionary party needs funds for arms and ammunition, and the only way in which this money can be secured is for the girl to be sold to a rich merchant. Three other fathers have agreed to sell their daughters, but mishap befalls all three. Whereupon Lien Wha auctions herself, finally getting a bid of $100,000. The buyer is Fen-Sha, a gambler, known as the "Sea Crab," who is the secret agent of the Manchu Emperor, and an enemy of the revolution. After slaying Lien Wha's father, Dong Tung, the stipulated sum for his daughter, Fen-Sha promptly recovers the money by having Dong Tung killed. He also arranges to have the young prince stabbed in the back. Then Lien Wha bewitches Fen-Sha in the bridal chamber, and strangles him with his own queue, presumably joining the prince, who has escaped death.

Lenore Ulric appears as the heroine, Lien Wha, and plays the part well. Albert Bruning, as the revolutionary leader, acts the death scene splendidly. Marion Abbott, Frederic Burt, and Thomas Findlay all do good work. The play has scored a success at the Belasco Theatre.

"Linger Longer Letty."

At the Fulton Theatre, Charlotte Greenwood is appearing in a new musical comedy with the above title, the piece being a sort of sequel to "So Long, Letty," in which Miss Greenwood has appeared for several seasons. The book is by Anna Nichols, the music by Alfred Goodman, and the lyrics by Bernard Grossman. The domestic and social difficulties of Letty form the theme of the play. One of several sisters in a large family, she has been relegated to the position of cook and all-round drudge, while her sisters pursue their social ambitions. Finally, Letty chooses the modern methods of winning her point. She goes on strike, and proceeds to indulge in a little romance on her own account, which results in almost wrecking the entire household.

"Old Timers" Celebrate.

McIntyre and Heath, the well-known minstrels, who have been partners for forty-five years, have had an anniversary celebration. Several octogenarians were present at the gathering, and one nonogenarian. Among the guests was Barney Ferguson. Londoners with good memories will remember his "ground and lofty tumbling" at the old "Pav." about thirty-five years ago.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Hamlet, on Christmas greetings: "We must speak by the card."

* * *

Stale news—the Beckett-Carpentier match. Still talked about—the Henson-Saunders match.

* * *

Apropos of which, "Reparation" is to be presented on Boxing Day. Is the Frenchman going to give Beckett his revenge?

* * *

So "Charley's Aunt" is back again! Or, rather, to the front again.

* * *

Or shall we say, "it's off again?" Meaning, you know, it's on again.

* * *

"The Great Day" has had its day. Were you at its last night?

* * *

Yes, plays are certainly moving fast enough—even if we ourselves cannot move at all.

* * *

One contemporary describes the recent theatrical changes as a "revolution in Leicester Square." Numerous revolutions, when you consider the Alhambra scheme and all the other new cinema bills.

* * *

Have you realised, by the way, what risks some of our film stars run? Regular cinemartyrs!

* * *

Alas, poor Father Christmas! Barrie is ousting him. A small friend told me the other day that she was counting the days to Peter Pan.

* * *

Subscriber: "Give me Gerard, please."
Operator: "What number?"
Subscriber: "Would there were more than one! I want Teddie."

* * *

Several critics, I notice, said that they could not see what the Censor saw in "A Dear Little Lady." Of course they couldn't. The Censor's job is to see that we don't see what he sees.

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.).—"Who's Hooper?" 8. Wed., Sat., 2.
ALDWYCH (Strand, W.C.).—"Sacred and Profane Love," 8.15. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30.
ALHAMBRA (Leicester-sq., W.C.).—"Tarzan of the Apes" and "Daddy Long-Legs," 2.30 and 7.30.
AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"Sylvia's Lovers," Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.30.
APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"Tilly of Bloomsbury," 8. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
COMEDY (Panton-st.).—"Three Wise Fools," 8.30. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.45. Gerr. 3724.
COURT (Sloane-sq., S.W.).—"Merchant of Venice," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.
CRITERION (Coventry-st.). — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30.
DALY'S. (Leicester-sq.).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.
DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Arms and the Man," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
EMPIRE (Leicester-sq.).—Serge Diaghileff's season of Russian Ballet, 8.30. Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.
GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"The Kiss Call," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15.
GARRICK (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"The Eclipse," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30.
GLOBE (Shaftesbury-av.).—"The Voice from the Minaret," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerrard 3722.
HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W. 11).—"Daddies," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.
HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.
KENNINGTON (Kennington Park-road). "The Whirl of To-day," 8. Thurs., 2.30.
KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-st., W.C. 2).—"A Temporary Gentleman," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.30.
LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"Afgar," 8.20. Tues., Sat., 2.30.
LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"The Bird of Paradise," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15.
OXFORD (Oxford-st., W.).—"Maggie," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross, W.C.).—"Home and Beauty," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-st., W.).—"Bran Pie," 8. Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.15.
PRINCES (Shaftesbury-avenue). —"Yeomen of the Guard," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30.
QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Cinderella Man," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9437.
ROYALTY (Dean-st., W. 1).—"Charley's Aunt," 2.30 and 8.
ST. JAMES'S (King-street, S.W.).—"Reparation," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30.
ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2).—"A Dear Little Lady," 8.45. Tues., Sat., 2.30.
SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Tiger Rose," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.15.
SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.).—"Baby Bunting," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15.
STRAND (Strand, W.C.).—"The Crimson Alibi, 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3452-3.
VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C. 2).—"Buzz Buzz," 8.15. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3815.
WINTER GARDEN THEATRE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Kissing Time," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.15.
WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Choice," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30.

VARIETY THEATRES.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross). — Eva Moore and Athole Stewart, Mme. Hara Onuki, Beatie and Babs, Mabel Mann, Noni and Horace. Misery and company, Elliott-Savonas, &c., 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7541.
HIPPODROME (Leicester-square).—"Joy Bells," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.
PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.). — Neil Kenyon, Karno's "Mumming Birds," Jack and Evelyn, Princess Iwa, Gus Elen, Liane D'Eve, Garadini, Clark's Cyclists, Marvellous Jees, Madeleine Loys, Radford and Russell, 2.30, 6, 8.40. Gerr. 7004.
VICTORIA PALACE (Victoria Station, S.W.).—Ernie Mayne, Talbot O'Farrell, Cruikshank, "The Grumblers," 6.15 and 8.50.

THEY SAY—

That Maurice Moscovitch collects neckties, and has more than he can possibly use.

* * *

That eleven dollars is being charged for seats in a new theatre in New York.

* * *

That Owen Nares recently received, by one mail, requests for his autograph from Peshawar, Delhi, Allahabad, and Karachi.

* * *

That Patrick Byrne has been tennis champion of Portugal for two successive years.

* * *

That, according to Martin Harvey, there is more money to be made in the provinces than in London.

* * *

That Olive Thomas began life in New York at 12s. a week, as a shop assistant.

* * *

That little Michael Melford, who acted as page to Madge Saunders at her wedding, owes his success in that rôle to his father's instruction.

* * *

That Douglas Fairbanks would have been a mining engineer if his parents had had their way.

* * *

That Henry Ainley received a request for a free seat from an octogenarian on the score that, in his youth, he had won medals for reciting Scripture!

* * *

That Ernie Mayne attributes his lack of invitations to Christmas dances to his rotundity.

* * *

That Carpentier, like other great men before him, is going to appear in a film play.

* * *

That Huntley Wright regards soldiering as a hobby and not a habit.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

The Next Alhambra Revue—Bransby Williams' Busy Week—Liverpool Empire and the Wounded—Brinsworth Limerick Competition.

The Alhambra's Next Revue.

After the Stoll film month, and following on the production of the new comic opera, "Medora"—say about mid-April—the Alhambra will revert to revue. This will be the revue for which George Robey is under contract to return to that huge house. We hear that in this G. R. will have what pros. call "the part of his life."

"Johnnie Jones."

The above-mentioned new Alhambra revue is at present entitled "Johnnie Jones." This name brings back memories of that "tale of woe" about J. J. and His Sister Sue. Also another ditty wherein the Queen of Comediennes used to tell us, while Winking the Other Eye—"I asked Johnnie Jones, and I know now."

Joe Elvin's Indisposition.

A legion of friends will be glad to hear that Joe Elvin, who has been indisposed recently, and suffering from loss of voice, is making good progress towards recovery. He has, however, been ordered a rest for a week or so. During the popular comedian's absence from the cast of "Sailor Lad" his part of Sim Popple has been excellently played by Ted Young.

"The Whirligig."

"The Whirligig," the revue which Mr. Albert de Courville is producing for Sir Alfred Butt at the Palace Theatre, promises to be strong in comedy. The latest additions to the cast are Mr. Charles Withers, who, it will be recalled, recently appeared at the Palladium in that funny travesty, "For Pity's Sake," and is now playing under Mr. de Courville's management in Paris, where his European success has been accentuated. Mr. Withers is shortly returning to London for rehearsals of the parts he will play in the new Palace production. That versatile revue actor, Mr. Morris Harvey, and Mr. Billy Leonard, will also have important parts. On the spectacular side Mr. de Courville promises one scene in particular which will be on a more elaborate scale than anything he has hitherto undertaken.

Bransby's Busy Week.

Mr. Bransby Williams went to Ealing, to the St. John's Schools, one day last week, and gave a Dickens' recital for a local fund. H.R.H. Princess Louise, who was present, and presented an old boy with the Military Medal, was delighted with Bransby's performance, and insisted on his being photographed with her. Mr. Williams, who is still doing shows for the wounded, appeared at the Eccentric Club on Saturday, and altogether had a very busy week, for he proposed the toast of the City Pickwick Club at the George and Vulture dinner; appeared at the Printers' Convalescent Home concert; also for the Polytechnic, &c. The clever character actor's new show, "Uncle George," is proving a great success.

Violet the Vivacious.

That brilliant actress and revue artist Violet (or "Vi") Loraine, who finished four years' engagement at the Alhambra with the withdrawal of "Eastward Ho!" last Saturday, is off for a brief holiday to the Continong. On her return Miss Loraine will in all probability "sign" with another big West End manager.

Liverpool and its Wounded.

By kind permission of Mr. Frank Allen, a concert was given on Sunday evening in the Liverpool Empire for the purpose of providing Christmas comforts for the 1,500 wounded men, 400 of them bed cases, still in local hospitals. The concert was a big success, thanks largely to the organisation of Mr. George Manners, the manager. The sum realised from all sources was £530, and the committee having the concern in hand have resolved to spend the money themselves, so that every penny will go to the recipients. They have already ordered 100,000 cigarettes, 70 turkeys, plum puddings, oranges, apples, &c.

A Welcome Return.

Marie Lloyd will be one of the principal holiday attractions at the Palladium next week and for the succeeding three weeks. The queen of comediennes will introduce some new songs, including "I've Been a W.A.A.C., but I'm a Good Girl Now," "The End of a Perfect Day," and "Up in Bond Street." The merry Marie will also, we hear, be seen in some of the latest Paris gowns.

M.H.A.R.A.

The offices of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association will be closed on Thursday and Friday (Christmas Day and Boxing Day), but will be opened as usual on Saturday morning until 1 o'clock. Members are therefore particularly requested to place their names on the list, or write in by Wednesday.

"Bluebell" at the Halls.

"Bluebell in Fairyland"—which was so successful at the Vaudeville, the Aldwych and the Prince's—is to be sent around the twice-nightly and other variety theatres, commencing at the Metropolitan.

Opera Soprano for the Empire.

Mr. Leon Pollock has secured the service of Miss Clara Simmonds, the operatic soprano, for the leading rôle in "The Red Mill," which he is producing with Mr. Larry Ceballos on Boxing Night at the Empire. Miss Clara Simmonds, who has been with the Beecham Opera Company for two and a-half years, is, we hear, to have fine opportunities in a duet with Mr. John Luxton, called "The Isle of Dreams." The fine cast also includes Miss Amy Augarde, Miss Ivy Tresmond, Mr. Rube Welch, Mr. Alfred Austin, Mr. Ray Kay, and Little Tich.

Christmas Day at Brinsworth.

The old folks at Brinsworth, who are assured of a good time during the festive season, will compete for a limerick competition and a missing word competition on Christmas Day for prizes presented by Mr. Joe Elvin, ever mindful of their happiness. The 1st prize for the limerick competition is £2, the 2nd prize £1, and the 3rd prize 10s. The 1st prize for the missing word competition is £2, 2nd prize £1 and 3rd prize 10s. The judges will be Mrs. Harry Tate, Mrs. Arthur Godfrey, and Mrs. Fred Thurlow.

The limerick runs as follows:—

Brinsworth is a lovely place,
In the summer most delightful.
In the winter, though, says Uncle Joe,
.....

Following is the missing word competition:—

Joe Elvin, he's a real good sport,
And known on all race courses.
I've heard that he has lost his voice
Through talking of .....

Join the Fums Up Society.

The inmates of Brinsworth, and the pensioners of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund, will receive a gift of money from the funds of "The Fums Up Society," the membership of which is increasing daily. Membership fee is 10s. 6d., to be sent to Mrs. Fred Thurlow, 4, Ockley-road, Streatham, S.W., or Joe Elvin, 63, Effra-road, Brixton S.W. Members' badges will be sent with receipts for subscriptions as soon as ready.

"A Model Muddle."

Mr. W. L. Rowland writes:—"You mention that the sketch, 'A Model Muddle,' was written by Mr. Arthur Wilmer. Mr. Wilmer certainly wrote the 'idea,' but the comedy dialogue, which was more than two-thirds of the sketch, was written by me. I also played the comedy part of Smirks during the whole of the run of this successful sketch."

Death of Fred Tyler.

Many of our readers will learn with regret of the sudden death of Mr. Fred Tyler, the assistant manager of the Chiswick Palace, on Sunday, the 7th, from heart trouble. The funeral, which took place at Richmond on Wednesday last, was attended by a large number of the staff and masonic and other friends. Many beautiful wreaths were sent by Chiswick residents, with whom the deceased was very popular.

Presentation to "Jimmy" McKinon.

Whilst on a flying trip to Scotland last week, Syd Walker presided at a very pleasant function, when his old friend "Jimmy" McKinon, of the Hippodrome, Greenock, was presented with a gold watch, suitably inscribed, by the members of his staff and many Greenock friends. It was a very happy gathering, the toast of the recipient's health and future prosperity being honoured with musical accompaniment.

Johnson Clark's New Act.

Miss Joan Paige, who has been playing a land-worker's part so successfully for the past two years, is now appearing as the Huntress in Mr. Johnson Clark's new act. The dialogue between Hodge and herself re hunters and riding, &c., is one of the laughing hits of Mr. Clark's performance. We hear that the act was written by Fred Pattison, and is copyright.

Swag Not Wanted.

Fred Carey, "the long streak of fun," who was appearing at the Luton Palace last week, whilst travelling on the Monday had his baggage containing his props. stolen. He started at Luton in borrowed garments, and had a big job re-writing band parts. Fortunately the thief found the "swag" of no value to him, and left it in the train. Fred having it returned during the week.

Vaudeville Lodge of Instruction.

The meetings of the Vaudeville Lodge of Instruction, 3,098, will in future be held at the Sun Hotel, Long Acre, every Thursday at 12 o'clock noon.

Graham and Cullen.

At the Metropolitan this week Graham and Cullen, the "K'nuts of the Navy and Army," are making their first appearance on the Syndicate Tour. Since they opened in town at the Chiswick Empire, where they proved such an undoubted hit, they have been secured for all the leading tours and also for the Victoria Palace, which has been arranged by Norris and Clayton.

Torino.

At the Shoreditch Olympia last week Torino concluded his London season, and will be away in the provinces and the Continent until July next. One of his most difficult tricks is the "Waltzing Coin," which, curiously enough, he introduced at the time the "Merry Widow" waltz was the rage. The other wonderful feat, balancing two billiard balls between two cues, was practised on and off for 12 years before it attained its present perfection. Torino was in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake some years ago, and in his present act there are two articles—a table cover and a cushion—which he was able to rescue from the scene of disaster where he was staying.

Miss Esta Pearle.

Miss Esta Pearle—a young singer who is not yet nineteen—opens at Camberwell Palace next week, after a short tour of the provinces. Miss Pearle has the advantage of a full mezzo-contralto and a fine stage presence.

Fred and Partner.

Fred Hart, late of Fred and Partner, who prior to the war were well known in both the circus and variety world, is now assisted in his act by a lady, the couple being known as Fred and Partner. They have been engaged by Mr. Harry Joseph to play parts and speciality in his pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," which opens at the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes. This will be Fred Hart's first engagement since being demobilised. He was attached to the R.E.s, and in April, 1918, won the Military Medal for gallantry in the field. During the latter part of his Army service he was playing with No. 2 Army Signal Concert Party—the Iddy Umpties.

A Quick Study.

On Sunday evening last Nita Van Biene, "The Girl with the 'Cello," was engaged to play the soubrette part of Lady Molly in the revue "Oh, La La!" She opened the following night at the New Theatre, Port Talbot, word and note perfect, and scored a big success. The engagement was booked by Herbert Cole.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Stanley J. Damerell officiated as W.T., Capt. A. De Villiers as V.T., Walter Norman G.C., William Welsh W.I., Jimmy Halma W.D., Tommy Victor Y.B., Fred Day organist, and Arthur Were secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to W. H. Atlas and Dick Henderson upon their reappearance in the Kennel.

The Order will hold a gala night on the evening of Sunday, Dec. 28, 1919. All Terriers in town on that date are invited to attend.

All Right at Night.

Mr. Harry Weldon, who was detained at home owing to an operation being performed on his young daughter, had only two rehearsals of his part, Buttons, in "Cinderella," at Glasgow Alhambra. Luckily he has played the part in previous years, and was all right "on the night."

Bon Voyage.

The following artists sailed from Tilbury on the 10th instant per the s.s. Goorkha, to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.: Brinkman and Sisters Steele, Walter Wade, Yorke Stuart, Owen Cassidy.

The Edinburgh Castle, which left Southampton on Friday last, the 12th instant, carried the following musical comedy artists to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.: Frieda Johnson, Eric Algar, Arthur Garrick, Bert Mellowes, Leslie Roy, Derek White.

Miss Anna Hana.

Miss Anna Hana, after a successful week at the Victoria Palace, is now at the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham. Miss Hana's new show has become very popular, and her return to the Gulliver halls is a pleasurable anticipation.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild beg to thank Miss M'Lita Dolores for her annual subscription of £1 1s. (one guinea), and the Rev. W. E. Kingsbury for 10s. 6d. towards the children's Christmas party. Gifts for the Christmas tree (not necessarily new) will be most gratefully received at 18, Charing Cross-road. Warm clothing is also urgently needed for men, women, and children.

The committee would remind artists that their children's party is being held on the 23rd inst., at the Horns Assembly Rooms, Kennington-road, when they are entertaining a hundred children. If any artists would care to send their children to the tea and join in the games and Christmas tree, they may do so for the sum of 2s. 6d.

Popular Glasgow Manager.

Captain Neptune Blood, the popular manager of the Glasgow Empire, who has recently undergone a fourth operation for a trouble arising out of his military services in the late war, returned to duty last week, when he was warmly congratulated by his many friends.

At War Seal Mansions.

Willie Rolls tells us that his brother Edward, who was a prisoner of war for ten months, and had his leg amputated, is now a tenant at War Seal Mansions, that splendid institution for disabled Service men at Fulham, erected out of the funds raised by Sir Oswald Stoll through the sale of War Seal stamps.

New Acts Coming.

On Monday Henderson's Agency will introduce in town Dollie and Billy, America's premier juvenile comedy duo, for the first time in this country. At the Metropolitan the same agency will introduce Solo, in a new act, on Monday. We also hear that Mr. Henderson is negotiating for a well-known theatrical star to appear on the halls.

Sea Breezes at St. George's Hall.

Mr. Nevil Maskelyne has been in search of novelties for his Yuletide holiday programme, and has evidently found them. We are to get an electrical display by "X, The Unknown," who, among other marvels, manufactures ozone while you watch, actually bringing sea breezes into St. George's Hall. Mr. Sivori Levey will present "The Smilers," brisk, up-to-date musical merrymakers; Mr. Oswald Williams returns from a long stay in Paris with new magical experiments, and Griff, the world's champion bubble-blower, likewise makes his reappearance.

Willie Rolls in Town.

At Stratford last week Willie Rolls, the roller-skating expert, made his reappearance in London, and was in fine form. We notice that he has elaborated his spade trick, and it is a very attractive feature of the show. Willie is at Finsbury Park this week, after which he returns to the provinces.

Osborne and Perryer.

That clever couple, Osborne and Perryer, were one of the most popular turns at Stratford last week in their highly entertaining skit "Seeing the Show." Since we last saw the act it has been slightly altered, and in place of his imitations Ben Osborne now gives some very amusing character-impressions in a skit on the ballad "Old-Fashioned Mother of Mine," which went very well indeed. They will be in town at Walham Green next week.

Ida Long.

Having concluded a successful tour of the Syndicate halls, Miss Ida Long is now rehearsing for the part of the Princess in Mr. Sydney Bransgrove's panto. "Aladdin," which opens at King's Lynn on the 22nd inst. At the conclusion of the run of the panto. Miss Long may go into revue.

Marie Kendall.

At the Euston last week the popular artist, Marie Kendall, made her last appearance in town prior to sailing for the States. Marie, who sails on Jan. 7 by the Mauretania, is taking with her a wonderful collection of hats and dresses. Bon voyage!

The Gladiators.

Arriving here last summer after a long season in the States, where they played all the principal houses in vaudeville, the Gladiators were secured for the leading circuits in this country following their appearance at the Victoria Palace. At present they are appearing on the L.T.V. Circuit, and their bookings, which are in the hands of Ernest de Vere, extend into 1922.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

THE JOY OF BEING AMERICAN—ERNIE MAYNE IN FINE FORM AT KILBURN—MERRIMENT AT THE "MET."

I was born in England, and it is too late now to alter the fact, but I sometimes wish that I had been born in America. To be able to speak their confident lingo, to do their confident stunts, to pronounce "b" with a staccato twang, and shout "Rah! Rah! Rah" would be a luscious and invigorating thing.

At the Kilburn Empire.

Last week, at the Kilburn Empire, Witt and Butt invoked my envy. They are one of the most vivacious pairs I know, and the effect they produce upon you is something like the effect of those friction machines which, when you turn a handle, beat tattoos all over your skin. Only I prefer Witt and Butt. They are exceedingly clever and entertaining. Paul is a first-rate ragtime player, reminding you of a Chinaman eating rice with chopsticks in a tearing hurry, and Teddie is just the companion for him. The one time in which Paul looked really serious was when Teddie was singing "What do you mean by loving somebody else?" He looked so ashamed of himself that I am sure they made it up afterwards in the wings.

There is no doubt about the popularity of Ernie Mayne. His appearance is always preceded by a rustle in the auditorium, which is far more complimentary (though the performer doesn't hear it) than a greeting of applause. People sometimes clap merely because they think they are expected to, but they never rustle to order—they rustle to get thoroughly comfortable so that their ensuing enjoyment may have nothing whatever to interfere with it.

Ernie sang those popular Darewski numbers, "Stop Your Stuttering, Sammy," and "Where Do Flies Go in the Winter-time?" They are both really good songs with persistent tunes, and there is a wealth of humour in the favourite comedian's rendering of them. Whether Ernie is really as fat as he looks I sometimes doubt. He out-bulks all comers. But I am sure he is as good-natured as he looks, for he gives his assistant, who sings choruses for him from unexpected quarters of the house, a real chance to distinguish himself, and allows him to reap applause for his very good voice.

The Gladiators gave a remarkable exhibition of muscular skill. They say that an elephant has 40,000 muscles in its trunk. The Gladiators have 40,000 in their little fingers. Romani, the Apache violinist, played well, and I should have enjoyed more than the one piece he gave. Stewart and Clayton gave a good dancing act. Of their four dances, the second provided them with the greatest artistic possibilities, introducing a very pleasant Old English atmosphere. Their modern dancing is good, too, but as we get a good deal of that I hope they will develop their rarer gifts. There is really very little grace in our newest dances, and Stewart and Clayton have both grace and sense of form.

A hit was scored by Maud Aston in "Squibs." Squibs is a flower-girl, who is knocked down by a careless motor-bus outside the house of one of her regular customers, who brings her indoors, to the dismay of his wife, who is worrying over her card-debt to a friend, who urges her to pay it by stealing money from her husband, who thinks it has been stolen by the flower-girl, who pretends to be the thief to save the wife, who confesses to save the flower-girl, whose honesty is proved to the husband at the eleventh hour, though known all the time to the audience, who applaud vigorously and go home satisfied.

At the Metropolitan.

But I did not go home. I went instead to the Metropolitan, attracted by the good names there, and also perhaps by its easy access from Kilburn. If the honesty of "Squibs" had been proved a little more quickly I would not have missed Rosie Jaxon. As it was, I arrived just in time to see Bertini and Asche sing, play, and flirt with each other. Their flirting was highly polished and highly appreciated.

Two of the best names on the programme were Dan Rolyat and Ida Barr. Dan and I seem to have hooked on to each other lately. I believe I could repeat his account of the football match between the Boosey Bounders and the Strikem Stiffs by heart. I had not seen Ida Barr for some while, however, and found her as popular as ever. The audience chuckled over "Beautiful Eyes" and "Sailors Are Lads," and they also chuckled over the little story which Ida told against herself as an encore.

"The Q's" gave a bright entertainment, during which I felt I was on a pier with the summer waves washing under me. They emulated marionettes, performed imitations, and ended up with a clever little opera told in a running sequence of topical songs.

Each of the other turns depended upon the grotesque, and I cannot say which made the audience laugh the most—"Doc" Campbell, who gets tangled up in everything he touches; Manuel Vega (meaning Manual Vigour?), who has a very funny wrestle with a dummy; or Crasey, Hicks, and Pass, who also introduce dummies so contrived that the outside legs of each couple are the dummy legs, and the inside legs—one apparently of the dummy's and one of their own—are the real ones. That is to say, each dummy has one real leg and one dummy leg, or, to put it another way, each real head has one dummy leg. If you can't understand what I mean—and I don't see how you possibly can—the only thing for you to do will be to go and see Messrs. Crasey, Hicks, and Pass yourself.

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SONGS AND SINGERS.

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Randolph Sutton, who is principal boy at the pantomime in Osborne Theatre, Manchester, has made a great success in "If You're Irish Come Into the Parlour."

Ian McCarthy, who will be remembered as a member of the Harmony Four for two years, has been working very successfully as a single turn for some time now. His big song just now is "That Wonderful Mother of Mine," and his singing of it is very fine indeed. There is no straining after big effects; the ballad is sung simply, naturally, and with true artistic instinct.

Fred Collins, producer at the Olympia Theatre, Glasgow, has a pantomime in "Mother Goose" that is one of the second city's attractions just now. Scenery, dresses, songs (Feldman's) and artists are alike excellent.

Scott Gibson's singing of "Mammy o' Mine" is tuneful and artistic.

"How Long Did Solomon Take to Kiss All His Wives Goodnight?" is the melodic query which Anna Hana is handing out just now. It is a great hit.

Bertini and Asche have two fine numbers in "For One Sweet Day" and "That Wonderful Mother of Mine," which they handle very effectively. Bertini scores heavily with "How 'Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?" also.

Enid Browne, with Fred Le Cren's "Yellow Dwarf" production, features "For One Sweet Day," and makes a great success of this charming ballad.

Herman Darewski Co.

One of the biggest comedy songs in this year's pantomimes will undoubtedly be Sam Mayo and Frank Leo's wonderful success, "Where do Flies Go in the Winter-time?" with which Ernie Mayne is scoring so heavily at the Victoria Palace this week. Wylie and Tate, Howard and Wyndham, Moreton and Heath, J. Bannister Howard, J. F. Graham, Milton Bode, John Tiller, Francis Laidler, and numerous other important managements have voted solid for this hit of hits.

Darewski's songs are in wonderful demand for this season's pantomimes. The principal boy songs par excellence are "If You Could Care," "Everything is Peaches Down in Georgia," "I Want a Doll," and "Where Did You Find the Lady?" The principal girl hits are "Kidnap Me" and "What Do You Mean by Loving Somebody Else?"; the biggest duets are "I'm Sorry I Made You Cry," "The Shiverin' Slide," and "What Could Be Sweeter?"; the biggest comedy numbers are "Flies," "Can You Tame Wild Wimmen?" "Thtop Your Thtuttering, Thammy," "L'il Liza Jane," and "Who Killed Poor Pussyfoot?"; while for fairy queens admirable ballads are "Now You've Come Back Home," "Granny," "Heartaches," and "In the Land of Beginning Again."

The full orchestral parts of "Joy Days" selection of popular Darewski songs are now ready, price 5s. This makes one of the finest pantomime overtures ever published.

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

The big success predicted for "You'll be Some Wonderful Girl" in pantomime has already been proved correct by the pantomimes which have already been produced. Mr. Randolph Sutton, principal boy at the Osborne Theatre, Manchester, sends the following gratifying wire to the publishers, the Lawrence Wright Music Co.: "Wonderful Girl a wonderful success. Biggest winner I've had, thanks."

That popular act, Leslie Stanelli and Edgar, who are quick to recognise a good song, included "You'll be Some Wonderful Girl" in their act immediately they heard it, and this week, at the Holborn Empire, it is going bigger than ever with them.

Talbot O'Farrell, who was the first to produce this number, and made such a hit with it, is including same in his repertoire at the Victoria Palace this week, where he is also working his big success, "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine."

Audiences at the Victoria Palace are also enjoying another of the firm's popular numbers, for Cruikshank is giving a spirited rendering of his ever-popular "Home." This number is proving an immense favourite with principal boys, as the firm are able to grant a few permissions for pantomime. Those who have not already secured this big success are advised not to fix upon a number until they have heard "Home."

"That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine," the most popular ballad for pantomime, is at the present time the feature number of the Michaeloff Trio.

Parker-Charles Music Publishing Co.

"I Just Want You" is being featured at Westcliff daily with great success by M. Mendoza. At the O.P. Club dinner to Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton at the Criterion on Sunday last, one of the chief items sung was A. Scott-Shaw's "At Last I Knew," the vocalist being Elsie Pelling. Albert Lovejoy sang G. F. Lewis' "A Last Request" at Clapton last week, the song being accorded a very hearty reception. Syd. Moorhouse's bulletin from Northampton Hippo. last week was to the effect that "Only a Sweet Old Melody" went "great guns." He is singing Garadini's excellent item this week at Reading Palace. A. Hallerton-Shaw's fine orchestras at Whiteley's, Barker's, Barnes', and many other leading business houses are making a strong feature of Parker-Charles items, including "I Just Want You." Mr. Shaw—an excellent judge—is particularly keen on this Dorothy Forster item, which is beating all records. "Bells at Sunset" is proving very popular amongst vocalists. It has been definitely chosen as a star song for panto. at King's Theatre, Hammersmith, Wimbledon Theatre, and at many provincial centres. Vocalists who have been fortunate enough to secure the new Cameron Forrester-Lewis item "'Tis Then Your Spirit Speaks to Mine" for panto. are particularly pleased with their capture. The song is, in their opinion, one of the finest items of the year.

VICTORY CIRCUS AT OLYMPIA.

Once again we have in London a fine specimen of that most fascinating form of entertainment, the circus. For the present enterprise, which was opened at Olympia on Friday last by H.R.H. Princess Beatrice, we have to thank Mr. Fred A. Wilkins, whose great knowledge of the business, both in this country and throughout the world, has enabled him to gather together for the present show some of the finest acts (British and Allies only) at present before the public.

The circus, however, forms only part of the huge show. The whole floor space of Olympia has been turned into a tremendous Allied Fair, with all manner of roundabouts, swings, scenic railways and sideshows. The sideshows include the World Zoological Co.'s collection of Indian novelties, with displays by real Indian dancers and Indian conjurers, whilst another prominent attraction is Yukio Tani, the famous Japanese wrestler. Hours of amusement may be obtained by simply strolling about the fair, for there is something to entertain on every hand.

The prime attraction, however, is, of course, the Royal Victory Circus, and here Mr. Wilkins has collected fourteen of the finest and most varied acts. Miss Mona, a charming little Irish horsewoman, starts the ball rolling with a fine display of bareback riding. Later we get Mlle. La Royal, introducing five beautiful and highly trained ponies. A couple of turns after that, Mona and Mlle. Carré present eight splendid horses, described as "Liberty Horses," which perform some amazing evolutions, one of the animals providing a final titbit with a series of quite wonderful dances! Early after the brief interval appear Signor and Signora Pissiutti in an equestrian act of quite a gladiatorial nature. Signor Pissiutti, in his white fleshings, is a fine figure of athletic manhood, and many of his poses, and those of his wife, too, on their elegant white horse, give the effect of statuary. M. Agube Gudzow is an exponent of the wonderful art of Cossack riding who has been brought from the Cossack region specially for this circus. This gentleman gives a most fascinating display, and although his act only lasts seven minutes he is compelled to use two horses on account of the terrific speed at which he runs them.

Turns other than equestrian are a company of acrobatic marvels called the Heraldos; Mlle. Florence Maude, with performing Irish Terriers; the famous sea-lion, "Jellicoe," introduced by La Petite Nina (we have on previous occasions called attention to the excellence of this turn); Signor and Signora Rossi, with their wonderful musical elephants; and, finally, the Rainats Troupe, nine of our French Allies, who give a really superb exhibition of sensational flying trapeze work.

To say "finally," however, is to ignore the clowns, of whom there are many, and one or more of whom seem to be *en evidence* throughout the performance. They include Les Frères Benedetti, Theodore and partners, and Gobert Belling and partners.

'1950; OR, WHEN WOMEN RULE."

AT THE METROPOLITAN.

This amusing travesty, written by Mr. Walsh in intelligent anticipation of events as they are likely to shape in the light of the Plymouth election, was produced at the Metropolitan on Monday evening. The scene opens with a candidate for mayoral honours, a smart-looking young woman, addressing the electors on the eve of the poll. She is assisted in her candidature by a burly and blunt-spoken woman, sportingly attired in a divided skirt of pronounced check, surmounted by a "topper" of the type popularly associated with John Bull, who vehemently wishes her success, at the same time hinting that her son, together with a large sum of money, may be had for the asking. But the case is altered as the result of the arrival on the scene of a weak-kneed individual of the masculine persuasion, who, after removing a veil which covers his features, discloses himself, in the manner of the betrayed and deserted heroine of melodrama, as the abandoned and distressed lover of the candidate. Offers of hush money have no effect, and the altercation is overheard by the burly female before mentioned, and the "new woman" promptly denounced, her political ambitions being thus extinguished. The trifle is excellently staged and played by all concerned in the true spirit of burlesque.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

The principal new-comers here this week are Miss Eva Moore and Mr. Athole Stewart, in Mr. W. J. McQueen Pope's entertaining little episode in one act, "The Punctual Sex." It is a neatly written reply to the masculine assertion about the unpunctuality of the gentler sex. Miss Eva Moore is altogether delightful as the harassed wife, who is hindered from dressing for an important dinner engagement by a very exigeant husband. Everything happens to prevent him getting ready—broken bootlaces, cut chins, obstinate studs, and the familiar contretemps of the dressing-room, and, of course, it is the wife who is blamed. Eventually, exasperated by his want of consideration, she seizes a quiet moment to finish her toilet, and dashes off without her husband. His reappearance, and "What! aren't you ready?" brings down the curtain. Mr. Athole Stewart is excellent as the nerve-racking husband, and good support is given by Miss Marjory Clarke as the maid.

Of a very hilarious type is the other sketch, "Misery and Co.," presented by Mr. Emmett Adams, which is seen here for the first time. The humorous situation of the two Tommies who dream of a nice, kind sergeant and a helpful and considerate M.O., is amusingly realised by Mr. Bruce Drysdale as 'Orace, the Australian, and Mr. J. W. Cunningham as "Misery." Mr. Alan Bailey is the Sergeant-Major to the life, and Mr. Arthur Mack, Mr. Harry Marter, and Miss Minty play well in the other parts.

"Noni and Horace" are as successful as ever in their eccentric musical act, which caused roars of laughter on Monday afternoon. The audience also signified their thorough approval of the Elliott-Savonas' lavishly produced Palace of Orpheus. Jean Dorane and Sydney Wood were well received in their original dancing act, as were also the three Neslos in their gymnastic novelty.

The entertaining Beatie and Babs remain in the bill, as also do Miss Mabel Mann and Mme. Haru Onuki.

THE PALLADIUM.

The usual attractive and varied programme is provided at the Palladium this week. A new comer is Princess Iwa with her troupe of Hawaiians. The Princess has a clear contralto voice, and this is heard to advantage in several Hawaiian and Maori songs, and the rhythmic movement of the troupe is seen in National and Pol dances, which are greeted with hearty applause. Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds" is quite a classic as a music hall mirth-maker, with Jimmy Russell as the gallery boy and Cyril Cooke as the inebriated swell, and suffice it to say it is as popular as ever.

A very popular turn is provided by Jack and Evelyn, who, always diverting and original, in their latest nonsense episodes keep the audience rocking with merriment. Gus Elen is also a great favourite in "The Waggle of that Old Dog's Tail" and "'E Dunno Where 'E Are," delivered with all his wonted humour. Garadini, the actor musician, gives excellent impersonations of Liszt and Paganini, and besides playing characteristic airs on piano and violin, he imitates their mannerisms with just the right touch of exaggeration. His accordion playing in his last impersonation is delightful. This is a study of an old seafaring man, and is also excellent. Clarke's Crazy Comedy Cyclists, with every conceivable kind of wheel get whirling, prove very diverting. The Marvellous Three Jees are seen in their comedy wire act. The amusing antics of Johnny cause much merriment, and the cycling and other feats of the serious member of the troupe are absolutely amazing. Madeleine Loys, of the Paris Lyrique Theatre, in selections from her repertoire, is a great favourite by reason of her charming appearance and melodious voice, and in "La Boheme," "Madame Butterfly," and "The Smile of Spring" she gains golden opinions.

Neil Kenyon, in his Scottish character studies, is always welcome, and his station master at a small wayside station is replete with quiet fun and quaint utterances, his panegyric on "Dunrobin" being droll in the extreme. Liane D'Eve is grace personified in typical French chansonettes. Jazz songs, and a more serious effort, and concluding with a beautiful song scena symbolical of peace; and Radford and Russell in their new musical act give some effective xylophone playing.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

The bill at Willesden Hippodrome this week is more than usually interesting. Vi Venus is bright and lively in her songs and business. She has some really smart patter and amuses the house immensely. Jack Kellino is a warm favourite with his original turn as musical comedian. Elsie Roby makes an irresistible appeal as a slavey at the piano. She is full of merriment, sings well, dances smartly, and on Monday was very heartily acclaimed.

Tom Leamore was deputised on the occasion by Sam Hilton, a bright and breezy comedian, whose song the "Old Brigade" won a decided encore. Mr. Gerald Cyril, in his novel flying act as the ventriloquial airman was well away from the crowd, and his act should prove a draw on any bill. The Joannys created much interest by their wonderful shadowgraph show. Mayne Steppers, the American speciality dancers, are very popular with their original and clever dancing. Will Van Allen on Monday had a great time in his varied musical act, in which he showed wonderful mastery of the banjo. One of the features of the programme was Pimple's sketch, entitled "Father," which is a rollicking burlesque, and created much hilarity. Pimple himself fills the name part with his usual success, his comedy being capital. Joe Evans does well as Captain Raffles, and Nina Maxwell makes an attractive fiancée, while Dick Jones should not be overlooked as the Orderly.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

There is a capital bill here this week, and excellent business is the result. Ian McCarthy, light character vocalist, has a clear, melodious voice, and his renderings of "All the World is Jealous of Me" and "That Wonderful Mother of Mine" richly deserved the applause received. Norman and Jaxon, in song and jest, were responsible for a very attractive act. The lady's rendering of "I'll Make You Love Me" called forth loud applause. Her male partner was delightful, too, with "Come Back to Carolina, Dinah," which was followed by a clever sentimental number.

An interesting item was supplied by Orassey, Hicks and Pass, whose acrobatic dancing with artificial figures was exceedingly amusing, and created much laughter. Aptly described as the "little lady with the big voice," Elsie Hayneon, with Howard Flynn, the well-known composer, delighted the audience with their beautiful rendering of "I Hear You Calling Me," followed by "Mr. Rubinstein." As a final, Mr. Flynn scored a big hit in an imitation at the piano of the famous composer Liszt. Wardini, apparently a male singer with a deep, melodious voice, caused great surprise when it was disclosed that "he" was really a member of the opposite sex.

Mary Mayfren and company, in the American crook play entitled "Tornado," richly deserved the reception accorded them. The playlet was full of "go" from start to finish. Queenie Leighton, the popular principal boy, gave "There's a Little Bit of Good in the Best of Us," and her rendering of a parody n "Round the Corner," so popular with the khaki boys, caused hearty laughter throughout the house. The Littlefields, very clever in a comedy wire act, including jazzing on the wire, completed.

TOTTENHAM PALACE.

Among the chief attractions at the Tottenham Palace this week must be mentioned Eddy Reed, the well-known American film artist, who, as a familiar character already to many, is here seen in an interesting entertainment. The turn is all brightness and interest, and the hearty applause is well merited.

Ching Wu, the popular Chinese illusionist, rivets close attention. His "developments" comprise a really unique entertainment. He greatly surprises his onlookers, and in nothing so much as in the "creation," apparently out of space, of a quite substantial-looking Britannia, also representatives of Ireland and America, and a very smart looking young "Tommy."

Frank Odell is the very essence of Irish. The representative of the Emerald Isle is as popular a turn as ever on the stage, if there is Art in the performance, and Frank Odell makes us quite at home with the real humour and song of the land of the Shamrock. Edgar Curtis provides an ideal vaudeville entertainment, a really smart act, and he is evidently one of those artists who would be welcome indefinitely if only time permitted. The Munro and Robbins Trio appear with clever snatches of comedy. The Three Piccadillians are decidedly successful in a very welcome entertainment, featuring the new ballad, "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes." Some excellently rendered operatic selections are also included. Fenner and Roberts are well received in their amusing turn under the general title of "Somersaults and Some-are-not," and J. R. Turnbull and Christine Cooper present a one-act play entitled "Dick's Sister," with a very acceptable degree of brightness and ability.

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

HAVE WE TOO MANY CINEMAS?

PICTURES NOT "A CRAZE."

In connection with the present house famine, a good many articles have lately appeared in the Press, alleging that picture theatre building has been overdone to such an extent that cinema speculation to-day is an exceedingly risky thing. Written, for the most part, by critics who possess no practical knowledge of their subject, these "swan songs" have contained such remarkable similarity in phraseology, as well as in opinion, that it is obvious that one has prompted another. The writers, while graciously expressing a kindly tolerance for the cinematograph, are careful to range themselves on the side of that shallow critic of popular recreation, the "Superior Person," by calling "the pictures" a "craze." It is about time that the word, in this connection, became obsolescent. Its employment in this way has, itself, become a "craze" with platitudinous writers, but the truth is that "the pictures" ceased being a craze at least fifteen years ago. Had they merely possessed the evanescent attractiveness of diabolo, or ping-pong, they would indubitably have deserved the contemptuous term; but their versatility runs the gamut of every human emotion, and, principally because of this, picture-going is no more likely to ever fall into a decline than novel-reading, or tennis, or anything else whose appeal is universal.

SHORTAGE OF PICTURE HOUSES.

So that the demand for more first-class and up-to-date picturedromes is a real one. In fact, there is a positive shortage. Taking London and district alone, there were, in that area, something like six hundred and fifty cinemas before the war, whereas now—with an increased population—there are certainly not five hundred. And these, if our experiences at a dozen halls in various districts are in any way typical, are, generally speaking, uncomfortably overcrowded nearly every night, so that many patrons are turned away. Admittedly there are instances which suggest that the building of cinemas has, in some few cases, been excessive, particularly when we see single thoroughfares with seven cinemas. And it is probably a fact that at least twenty per cent. of existing theatres (principally, of course, the older and smaller houses) are being run at a loss. The long lists of theatre mortgages and debenture issues which appear each month, side by side with the list of theatre registrations, points to this. But such a condition, in view of the general prosperity, is not a sign of stagnation. It is a sign of vitality, paradoxical though this may appear, for it proves that the trade is shedding its adipose tissue, and settling down to become one of the strongest and healthiest industries in the country.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

Sessue Hayakawa's Triumph—Well-known Actress to Appear in Screen Play—Singer and Cinema Star.

Western Import.

"The Conqueror," an "Every-week" drama that Western Import will screen at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday at 11 a.m., is, we hear, a drama full of powerful incidents with a wealth of love interest. Mark Horn, a "self-made" man, hates society, and whenever a chance offers, tries to humiliate it. He sees such a chance in Wayne Madison, who puts his whole fortune in stock which Mark controls. Mark forces Madison's stock down, and gradually ruins him. How Mark saves his victim—at a price, realises his caddish trick, and makes good, is told in a gripping manner. Willard Mack portrays the rôle of Mark Horn, and J. Barney Sherry that of Wayne Madison, Margaret Thompson and Louise Brownell playing other important parts.

"Which is more sacred, a man's life or a woman's honour?" is the theme of "The Stainless Barrier," the other drama to be screened on the same occasion, and in which Irene Hunt plays the chief rôle.

Cinema de Luxe, Leicester.

With the coming of the New Year the Cinema de Luxe, which was formerly so well known as the Temperance Hall, one of the finest billetings in Leicester, will pass into the possession of Mr. Jackson, who will carry out certain alterations and open an up-to-date café on the ground floor. Mr. Jackson has always presented brilliant programmes, assisted by a fine orchestra under the direction of M. Rubinstein, late leader of the Casino Orchestra, Ostend.

Mr. Jackson has also purchased the Food Controller's office, which was formerly a garage, and the Wagon and Horses Inn, which immediately adjoins the property, and stands on a large area, and intends to erect another first-class cinema hall alongside the one already in existence. Entirely different programmes are to be submitted, and as both theatres are situated in Granby-street, one of the busiest thoroughfares in the town, its advent will be welcomed by the many hundreds who are unable to secure admission to the Cinema de Luxe.

The Triumph of Sessue Hayakawa.

Granger's latest addition to their programme, Sessue Hayakawa, in "The Rajah's Amulet," has proved an immediate success. A well-known actor is of opinion that Sessue Hayakawa is the greatest living exponent of the art of silent acting. He can express emotions through the agency of facial expression and physical movement in such a manner as to make it indifferent whether the photo-play in which he acts has the connecting links of sub-titles. "The Rajah's Amulet" is having a quick trade tour round the country and is meeting with success on all sides.

Pollock-Daring Films.

Mr. Leon Pollock, the managing director of Pollock-Daring Films, would like it to be known that he has appointed Messrs. the International Film Traders as his sole world distributors for all his productions, of which their first offering is No. 1 of the "Jack, Sam and Pete" series. The I.F.T. recommend British renters and foreign buyers to get into touch with them as early as possible, as they are fast disposing of territory.

The Alhambra Cinema Season.

The four weeks' cinema season at the Alhambra started on Monday, with every evidence of success, those two famous pictures, "Tarzan of the Apes" and "Daddy Longlegs," with Miss Mary Pickford in the principal part, being screened. It is interesting to recall that the first "living pictures" shown in England were exhibited at that theatre. For the present season a beautiful colour-scheme in lighting has been devised for the auditorium, while the screen itself is seen as part and parcel of an artistic setting.

Exciting Jungle Film.

Thirty-eight different varieties of animals take part in the wonderful jungle film, "The Lost City," recently exhibited privately by Kilner's Exclusive Films Co. This picture, which will appear in serial form, has been produced by Colonel Selig on his vast Californian estate. Here all these wild creatures are allowed to roam practically at large, and the film depicts them dashing through the jungle and even taking possession of a native village, to the obvious dismay of the inhabitants. Even crocodiles take part in the production, and the scene in which they attack a terrified maiden, who has unwittingly strayed into their preserve, is one of the most eerie and exciting in the whole series of stirring episodes.

Fearless Film Family.

"Sansonia," the clever young Italian film athlete, not only comes of acrobatic ancestry, but, we hear, is carrying on the family tradition by imparting to his own offspring the gymnastic training acquired from his parents in his younger days. His wife, son and daughter take part in many of his daredevil "stunts," and there is hardly a production in which he may not be seen bearing them across a deep chasm by means of a slender rope, scaling houses, swinging at dizzy heights, or performing some other feat of strength and endurance. "Nipper," his twelve-year-old son, promises to be as brilliant as his father, and with his little pet donkey proves himself an engaging young rascal who gets into and out of all sorts of curious scrapes.

Ethel Irving on the Screen.

Miss Ethel Irving has, we hear, signed a contract with Messrs. "The World's Best Pictures"—a new all-British film-producing enterprise—to play her original rôle of Julie in a film version of M. Brieux's play, "The Three Daughters of M. Dupont," which, it will be recalled, had a successful run at the Ambassadors Theatre in 1917. Miss Irving will be supported by Mr. Norman Thorp, Miss Ellen O'Malley, and a full West-End company.

"Desire."

The B. & C. have just completed a film called "Desire," which has been adapted and produced by Geo. Edwardes Hall. The story will, we are told, be a delightful surprise to many people when the film is shown. Dennis Neilson-Terry plays lead and Yvonne Arnaud does excellent work, wearing some very simple but beautiful gowns. Christine Maitland will be seen in some ultra-fashionable frocks, specially designed and made for her character of a society woman. The entire company went to Paris in order to take a few exterior scenes in their actual locality.

Pathé.

Dolores Cassinelli, who plays lead in the new Pathé Gold Rooster play, "The Virtuous Model," is one of the most beautiful actresses of the present day. Caruso visited the studio where Dolores Cassinelli was at work on one of her big emotional scenes in "The Virtuous Model," and warmly greeted her as a fellow-artist. Dolores Cassinelli put aside what promised to be a brilliant operatic career to devote her exceptional dramatic talent to the screen. So, like Caruso, she is both a singer and a cinema star. "The Virtuous Model" is causing a deal of pleasurable anticipation among exhibitors, viewers, and the trade generally, so many laudatory comments having preceded it from America. To-day it is to have a private trade exhibition at the London Pavilion, after which it will be shown to the trade in all the large provincial centres.

Well-known Film Producer Safe.

It is good news to learn that Mr. D. W. Griffith, the well-known film producer, and his company of thirty-six artists have arrived safely at the Bahamas, after a voyage lasting several days, during which the vessel was badly buffeted by the rough seas.

EXHIBITORS, NOTE!

The World's Greatest Boxing Boom will occur in JUNE, 1920, when CARPENTIER is matched against DEMPSEY at the OLYMPIA.

Do not miss your opportunity to book

"THE CLIMBER,"

the World's Greatest Boxing Picture. Produced by JAXON FILM CORPORATION, which will be released in MAY, 1920, so that your bookings will benefit from the Great Boxing Boom.

TRADE SHOW of "THE CLIMBER,"

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TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"THE LOST CITY."

WONDERFUL ANIMAL SERIAL.

Production ..... Selig Films
Type ..... Animal Serial
Star ..... Juanita Hansen
Length.....Fifteen 2-reel Episodes
Distributors .... Kilner's Exclusives Films, Ltd.

A wonderful film of wild animal life and stirring adventure in the heart of the tropic jungle was filmed for Kilner's Exclusives, Ltd., in the great Selig serial, "The Lost City." It depicts the adventures of two aviators, a young millionaire and a pugilistic Irishman. They discover in the hands of a jungle tribe a young princess from the Lost City of Tarik. Their subsequent adventures are in their efforts to restore her to the outer world. Many exciting episodes include a rescue by aeroplane from a pit of lions, the lassoing of a leopard in mid-air, the spectacle of a mad elephant creating havoc in a native village, and the girl herself on a lonely rock surrounded by crocodiles. Special interest centres naturally in the scenes of wild creatures in their native haunts, and special care, it is evident, has been taken to make these scenes absolutely true to life. Juanita Hansen makes a picturesque figure as the Princess Elyata, and George Chessborough and Frank Clarke have a very strenuous time as the pair of adventurers. The film is absolutely novel, fresh in story and situation, and should undoubtedly be an immense success wherever shown.

* * *

"THE DELICIOUS LITTLE DEVIL."

AN IRISH GIRL'S ALIAS.

Production ..... Trans-Atlantic
Star ..... Mae Murray
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Length ..... Six Parts
Controllers.. Neville Bruce Film Service

Kitty McGuire, an impulsive Irish girl with a deal of native wit, hits upon an advertisement which invites applications from pretty girls for a post as cabaret dancer, one of the inducements being that the situation will ensure a "good future for a girl with a past." Kitty possesses the necessary qualifications as a dancer, but she has no "past," being a hard-working little woman, at the moment out of a job. But, with the resourcefulness of her race, she assumes the alias of a notorious woman who has been one of the principals in a cause célèbre, and is engaged. Despite the glamour of her surroundings, Kitty remains as good as she is pretty, and inspires the real affection of a young frequenter of the cabaret, Jimmy Calhoun, who informs his father (who has acquired a fortune) of his determination to marry the dancer. Old Calhoun, apparently agreeing, offers to provide a dinner, in the hope that when the wine begins to flow the dancer's real nature will come out, and his son be cured of his infatuation. But Kitty, and not the presumed adventuress, being his guest, he is disappointed. Many diverting, and at times dramatic, happenings occur before Kitty is revealed as what she really is—a bright little colleen with an eye for a joke, and in the end she is welcomed by the elder Calhoun as his son's fiancée. The film owes much to the delightful acting of Mae Murray as the bewitching Irish girl, the support being excellent. Many beautiful scenes are filmed in the progress of the story.

* * *

"THE CITY OF PURPLE DREAMS."

HERO OR VILLAIN?

Production .....Gaumont
Star .....Tom Santschi
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Parts

This is a film of compelling interest, but the spectator is puzzled throughout as to whether to regard the central figure, a man named Dan Daniels, as a hero or the reverse. Dan, when we first meet him, is an out-at-elbow derelict, but an act of generosity on the part of a rich girl, accompanied by the advice to "go and clean himself," puts new hope into him, and, as a result, he progresses by unorthodox methods, with almost meteoric speed, until he becomes a millionaire. These methods include a short career as a financier's decoy, which gives him his first advance up the social ladder; card-sharping; and his eventual emergence as a shady manipulator on the Wheat Exchange, where he not only amasses a fortune, but ruins the father of the girl who had set him on his upward path, and whom he eventually marries. Dan, however, carries himself with such amazing sangfroid, and is withal such a fine figure of a man, that the sympathy of the audience is with him all the time, even to the fall of the curtain. This is due to the genius of Mr. Santschi, who is to be warmly complimented on a personal triumph.

"The Border Terror," a two-reel tabloid, full of thrills, was also shown.

* * *

"THE ILLUSTRIOUS PRINCE."

PRINCE SAVES HIS HONOUR BUT LOSES LOVE.

Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Sessue Hayakawa
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Jury's

"The Illustrious Prince" is a production worthy of that fine actor Sessue Hayakawa, who has a part well suited to his style, and succeeds in retaining throughout the air of mystery and suspense. Prince Maiyo, of Japan, views with disfavour the growing intimacy between De La Mar and the Duchess of Devenham, the latter the wife of the Prince's great friend. Later Maiyo discovers that De La Mar was responsible for his father's death, a fact which somewhat excites Soto, his man. While on his way to elope with the Duchess, De La Mar is murdered in a taxicab, the unknown assassin escaping in the fog. While the Duchess suspects her husband, Penelope, in love with the Prince, fears for his safety, and comes to warn him of the arrival of the police. Soto prevents his master's arrest by owning up to his crime, but Maiyo, although free, loses his love, on account of the racial barrier.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"SNARES OF PARIS."

STRONG TEST OF A HUSBAND'S LOVE.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Madlaine Traverse
Length ..... Five Reels

Beautiful Madlaine Traverse, wearing exquisite gowns, is the central figure in this effective film drama. Marguerite, fresh from a convent life, falls an easy victim to the evil-natured Belloc, who, when he tires of the girl, leaves her and their baby boy alone and friendless in Paris. De Brionne, an honourable attorney, cares for the child, and Marguerite wins the love of Emile Coulard, of the French diplomatic service. Fernand, the boy, as he grows up, becomes a victim to absinthe, but on his guardian's death he promises his mother to go straight. Fate brings Fernand into Marguerite's house as her husband's trusted secretary; Belloc, posing as a friend, is also there, his object being to steal some valuable plans. Belloc tempts Fernand with absinthe, but to save her husband from scandal Marguerite steals the plans herself. Belloc is killed while trying to escape, and by confiding in her husband Marguerite learns that his love is strong enough to overlook the past.

[See our Film Markings.]

"THE SWINDLER."

FOUNDED ON ETHEL DELL'S NOVEL.

Production ..... Stoll Film Co.
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Marjorie Hume
Length ..... Five Reels

"The Swindler," adapted from Ethel Dell's widely read book, is not an easy subject to screen, but Stoll's, with a strong cast, have done wonders, and there is an enjoyable ninety minutes in store for the public on the release of the production. Marjorie Hume makes the most of her opportunities, and invests the character with real charm. Cecil Humfreys plays his difficult rôle well, while the same can be said of the remaining cast. The swindler, long wanted by the police for card-sharping, takes the blame when the brother of the girl he is interested in is guilty of cheating, and receives sentence for the other's crime. After five years the girl responsible in part for his imprisonment gets him a position as manager of an aircraft works. The "swindler," though well aware of her love, keeps silent, but when his fair employer undergoes a serious operation he consents to her request for a hasty wedding, and thus brings the curtain down on a happy ending.

[See our Film Markings.]

"The Climber."

United Kingdom Photoplays announce a trade show of the boxing film, "The Climber," at their private theatre, 29a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2, on Friday at 3 p.m. As "The Climber" will be released in May, 1920, exhibitors should lose no time in booking it.

A TENSE SCENE FROM "DAMAGED GOODS."

"THE RAJAH'S AMULET."

"EAST IS EAST, AND WEST IS WEST, AND NEVER THE TWAIN SHALL MEET."

Production .....Granger
Star .....Sessue Hayakawa
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Parts

The truth of Kipling's well-known lines was aptly illustrated in this film, which shows how the young Prince of Jalu, heir to the throne, on the completion of his studies at Harvard, is, through an imprudent action on the part of an American girl, deprived of a precious possession in the shape of an amulet given to him as a talisman by his fiancée, a girl of his own race. The Prince, made aware of the deception, is insulted, and sneered at as a man of colour. He returns to Jalu, and, on the death of his father, assumes the reins of Government. Still smarting under the insult offered him in America, the young ruler declines to have any dealings with the Westerners, and trouble ensues. It is now that the Oriental has his revenge, as the father and brother of the American girl above mentioned come at the head of an expedition to bring the new Rajah to reason, but with such ill-success that the lo are quickly at the potentate's mercy. With fine dignity this quality is exercised; the prisoners being allowed to depart unharmed, and the amulet restored to its owner. The acting and scenery were excellent.

Another instalment of the fine "Wonders of the Universe," entitled "A Trip Through Hawaii," which included a marvellous photograph of a volcano in eruption, was also shown.

[See our Film Markings.]

Harold Brooks Joins Granger's.

We hear that Harold Brooks, one of the best known amongst the younger members of the Birmingham film trade, has decided to throw in his fortunes with the London office of Granger's. Harold Brooks, popular and always welcome, was, before the war, well known at the Sun Exclusives. During the war he was on active service in the R.N.A.S. As a staff telegraphist he saw much interesting work in Russia. Since the happy demob. day Harold Brooks did useful work in Pathé's Birmingham branch. In his new sphere of activity at Granger's London office he will have the best wishes of many friends for his continued success.

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TRADE SHOW

London Pavilion

(Piccadilly Circus),

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EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Not known	The Swindler ..	Stoll-British	Drama	—	9	B
March 15..	John Tom, Little Bear ..	Vitagraph-O.H.	Comedy	2000	9¼	D
March 29..	Zip and Zest	Vitagraph-Big V.	Comedy	2000	8¾	B
May 13 ..	Snares of Paris	Fox	Drama	5000	9	B
May 13 ..	The Illustrious Prince ..	Jury's	Drama	5000	9½	D
July 19 ..	Bill Henry	F.P.L. Ince	Comedy-Drama	4000	9¾	D
Aug. 2 ..	The Valley of Giants ..	F.P. Lasky	Drama	4000	9¼	B
Sept. 13 ..	Mr. Goode, Samaritan ..	W'stn Imp'rt	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	D
Sept. 20 ..	Wolves of the Border ..	W'stn Imp'rt	Drama	5000	9	B
Oct. 4 ..	The Bramble Bush ..	Vitagraph	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Dec. 15 ..	Pathé Pictorial No. 89 ..	Pathé	—	—	9	D
Nov. — ..	The House of Intrigue ..	Jury's	C.M.D.	5000	8¾	B
Not known	Hold Up Your Hands .	Astra	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
Not known	The Speed Maniac	Fox	Drama	5000	9	B
Not known	In the Days of Caring ..	Direct F.T.	Drama	500	9½	D
Not known	When Youth is Mad	Direct F.T.	Drama	5000	9	B
Not known	Canada Scenic's Two ..	Jury's	—	—	9½	D
Not known	The Razamuffin	Walturdaw-1st National	—	—	9¾	D
Not known	Wagon Tracks	F.P.L. Paramount	Drama	4000	9¼	C B
Not known	You Never Saw Such a Girl ..	F.P.L. Paramount	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
Not known	The Silent Rider	Direct Films-Pennant	Drama	5000	9	B
Not known	The Rajah's Amulet.. ..	Granger	Drama	5000	9½	B
Not known	Scenic:—Norway	Jury's	—	—	10	D
Not known	Universal Marvels	Granger	—	—	9¼	D
Not known	The Hulu Hulu Theatre ..	Cartoon-Granger	—	—	10	D
Not known	Snow in the Desert	Walturdaw-B. West.	Drama	6000	9¾	D
Not known	The Shooting Party—No. 3 Set	Gaumont	Drama	2000	8¾	—
Not known	Roped and Tied	Gaumont	Drama	2000	8¾	—
Not known	The Border Terror	Gaumont	Drama	2000	8¾	—
Not known	Taperin' Fingers	Gaumont	Drama	2000	8¾	—
Not known	Should we Condemn Her ..	Ward's	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Not known	Mrs. Thompson	General Samuelson	Drama	6000	9	B
OPEN MARKET.						
March 29..	Doing His Bit	Transatlantic P.C.C.	—	450	6¾	B
March 29..	Billie's Nurse	Amber	Comedy	90	6½	B
March 29..	Banana Industry of Jamaica	—	Interest	350	7	D
April 1 ..	All in the Swim	Star	Comedy	960	7	B
April 1 ..	Shadows and Shocks ..	Novelty	Comedy	1000	6¼	B
April 1 ..	Screen Magazine, 149 .	—	Interest	550	7½	D

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FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON

Break the News to Mother (Walturdaw), New Gallery, 11.15, Dec. 17.

Vagabond Luck (Fox), Super, 11, Dec. 17.

Damaged Goods (W. and F.), London Pav., 2.45, Dec. 18.

The Shot of Mystery (Astra), Shaftesbury, 11, Dec. 18.

City of Comrades (Stoll), London Pav., 3, Dec. 19.

The Dragon Painter (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Dec. 18.

The Dragon Painter (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Dec. 19.

Kitty Kelly, M.D. (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Dec. 23.

Kitty Kelly, M.D. (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Dec. 24.

BIRMINGHAM.

His Forgotten Secret and Star Border (Vitagraph), De Luxe P.H., 11, Dec. 17.

Mr. Goode the Samaritan (West. Imp.), Scala, 11, Dec. 17.

As a Man Lives (L.I.F.T.), Futurist, 11, Dec. 18.

A Woman's Experience (Urban), Scala, 11.15, Dec. 18.

Bondage of Barbara (Stoll), Futurist, 11, Dec. 19.

Bill Henry and Valley of Giants (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Dec. 19.

The Other Half (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Dec. 19.

CARDIFF.

Bare Fists (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30 and 2.30, Dec. 17.

Four Two-reel Comedies (Vitagraph). Cardiff Cinema, 11, Dec. 18.

Spotlight Sadie (Stoll), Pavilion, 11.30, Dec. 19.

Hornet's Nest and Transients in Arcadia (Vitagraph), Cardiff Cinema, 11, Dec. 19.

Wagon Tracks and You Never Saw Such a Girl (F.-Lasky), 16, Priory-st., 11, Dec. 19.

The Beetle (Jury), Olympia, 2.30, Dec. 19.

GLASGOW.

The Shot of Mystery (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11, Dec. 17.

The Rajah's Amulet (Granger), Cranston's, 11, Dec. 17.

The Beetle (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Dec. 17.

Bramble Bush and Zip and Zest (Vitagraph), Salon, 11, Dec. 18.

Westward Ho! (B. E. F.), Picture House, 11, Dec. 18.

The Shot of Mystery (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30, Dec. 18.

Burglar by Proxy (Argosy), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Dec. 19.

Who Has the Best Time? (L.I.F.T.), Cranston's, 11, Dec. 19.

The Answer and Paying His Debt (West. Imp.), 182, Trongate, 2.30, Dec 19.

LEEDS.

Bramble Bush and Zip and Zest (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 11, Dec. 17.

The Joyous Liar (Gaumont), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 17.

For a Woman's Honour (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 17.

Snares of Paris (Fox), Cinema Ex., 11.40, Dec. 18.

Fanatics and Old Hartwell's Cub (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Dec. 18.

Cry of the Weak (Granger), Cinema Ex., 3.30, Dec. 19.

The Ragamuffin (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 11, Dec. 19.

LIVERPOOL.

Mrs. Thompson (General), Clayton-sq., 11.15, Dec. 17.

Hornet's Nest and Transients in Arcadia (Vitagraph), Scala, 11, Dec. 17.

The Lady Clare (Phillips), Cinema Ex., 11.30, Dec. 17.

Habit of Happiness and Skidding Hearts (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, Dec. 17.

The Demon (Metro.), City P.H., 11, Dec. 18.

The Demon (Metro.), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 18.

Bill Henry and Valley of Giants (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Dec. 18.

Splendid Folly (Walturdaw), City P.H., 11, Dec. 19.

The Bat (Gaumont), Scala, 11, Dec. 19.

The Bat (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30, Dec. 19.

In Old Kentucky (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 19.

The Illustrious Prince (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 23.

MANCHESTER.

Splendid Folly (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 11, Dec. 17.

Quickening Flames (Walker), Cinema Ex., 12, Dec. 17.

Mating and Ramble in Aphasia (Vitagraph), Market-st., P.H., 11, Dec. 17.

Open Market (Palatine), Own Theatre, 11, Dec. 17.

The Speed Maniac (Fox), Oxford-street P.P., 11, Dec. 17.

His Temporary Wife (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 10.30 and 2.30, Dec. 17.

Silver Lining (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Dec. 17.

The Demon (Dispatch), Deansgate P.H., 11, Dec. 17.

The Call of Her People (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 17.

Vagabond Luck (Fox), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, Dec. 18.

Habit of Happiness and Skidding Hearts (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Dec. 18.

Mrs. Thompson (General), Oxford-street P.H., 11.15, Dec. 19.

The Swindler (Stoll), Market-street P.H., 11, Dec. 19.

The Swindler (Stoll), Own Theatre, 3, Dec. 19.

Habit of Happiness and Skidding Hearts (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Dec. 19.

The Demon (Dispatch), Own Theatre, 3, Dec. 19.

Her Purchase Price (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Dec. 19.

NOTTINGHAM.

With Edged Tools (Stone's), Picture House, 11, Dec. 17.

Bill Henry and Valley of Giants (F.-Lasky), Parliament-st. P.H., 11, Dec. 17.

The Lady Clare (Phillips), Goldsmith P.P., 11, Dec. 19.

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Star ..... J. Fisher White
Controllers ..W. F. Film Service, Ltd.

On Tuesday morning, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Mott, on behalf of the W. & F. Film Service, Ltd., gave a private view of this Samuelson All-British production at Terry's Theatre. This powerful and poignant drama, is beautifully and faultlessly screened. Though the letterpress is full of plain speaking, the subject is most delicately and scientifically treated, and there is nothing but beneficial teaching in the beautiful photographs set forth. The story is too well known to need recapitulation. As the kindly, sympathetic savant and scientist, Dr. Brough, Mr. J. Fisher White is entirely admirable, arresting and convincing in his performance. The part of Edith Wray is remarkably realistic as depicted by Joan Vivian. Mr. Bassett Roe as the father-in-law, Annie Esmond as the grandmother, Marjorie Day as the wife Henrietta, and Campbell Guillan as the husband, are all excellent, the other parts all being really well played.

"The Call of the Blood."

Louis Mercanton, who has completed filming Robert Hichens' famous novel, "The Call of the Blood," announces that his next production will be "Kismet." All the scenes of the former were taken in their original locale in Sicily, and every character was played by well-known actors of the nationality referred to in the book. Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry will appear in this film as Hermione, and Ivor Novello, Cecil King, M. le Bargy, Salvatore le Turco, Gabriel de Gravone, and Desdemona Mazza will play other important parts.

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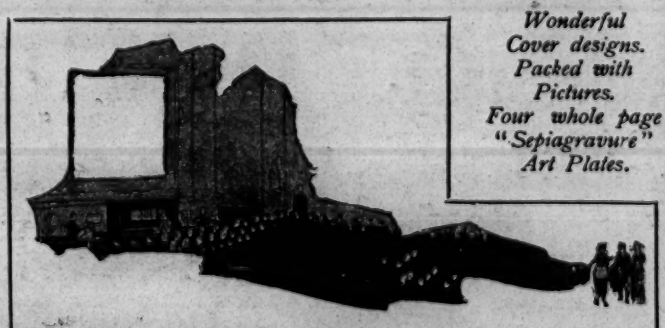

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1919.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Joy-Bells."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Gertie Gitana, Elgar Hudson Quintette, Joe O'Gorman, E. J. Moore, George D'Albert, Royal Bartle Quartette, Marvellous Merrills.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bransby Williams, King and Benson, Olga Morselli, Yost and Partner, Herbert Cave, Finlay Dunn, Mais and Grabb.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
G. H. Elliott, Duncan and Godfrey, Thompson and Walker, Sam Mayo, Jubb and Jerome, Biolfes Trio, Dolly Elsworthy, Geert Bros.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Malcolm Scott, Harmony Four, Poluski and Mott, Renee and Godfrey, Vasco, Stan Kavanagh and Co., Hector and Lolletta.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Waters and Morris, Hilda Nelson Trio, Frederick Sylvester and Co., Billy O'Connor, Cara Magda, George Morton, Yamamoto and Koyoshi.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bert Le Mont presents his Cowboy Minstrels, Daly and Healy, Moss and Manchah, Laurie Devine, Chas. Norton, La Venn and Cross, Hal Wright.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for Artists as booked.
Will Artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no Variety Agent has the Sole Bookings of the former Theatre?

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Hustle." Happy Tom Parker, Takio, Stanley Deane, Harry La Vail and Sister.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Elkins, Fay and Elkin, Alfredo, Les Latour, Bert Terrell, George Bowden, Florence Yaymen, Beckett v. Carpentier Fight Film.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Moss' Empires, Ltd., presents "Jack and Jill," Pantomime.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker's Appeal," Dick and Jim Mortimer, Harry Harvey, Geo. Bolton, Ex-Private Fagan, Ten Loonies, Broughton and Creedon.
(Matinee Monday, at 2.30.)

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Tom Edwards, Tucker, Violet Essex, Les Trombetta, Morgan and Burke, Jack and Tommie, Four Mackwells.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Two Rees, Reeves and Winn, Tom Lloyd.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Joy-Bells."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Wylie-Tate Pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
John Tiller presents "The Babes in the Wood."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Robert Reilly, Leslie, Stanelli and Edgar, Constance Risdon and Brother, Les Rosselas, Horace Wheatley, Fields and Doreen, Sandy Powell.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ike and Will Scott present "Babes In The Wood."

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
Marie Novello Trio, Knapp and Cornalla, Ben Anderson, The Riskits, Frank Fay, Tom E. Hughes, Brinn.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Florrie Forde's "Red Riding Hood."

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Day presents "Funbeams."

EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Money to Burn," Radford and Russell, Chas. Cohan, Frank and Vesta, Jack Lane.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Breconia Singers, Gordon and Rica, Lawrence Wright Ensemble, W. V. Robinson, Dan Eden, Willie Gardiner, The Diving Belles.
Artists are requested to bring Band Parts for full Orchestra, including Horns and Bassoon.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mr. George Sax's Pantomime "Little Red Riding Hood."
(Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Johnson Clark, The Donovan Family, Fred Brezin, Maher and Langford, Cycling D'Ormondes, Coquelli.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Officer Vokes and his Dog Don, George Young, W. B. Raby, Roy Mex, Bert Weston, Miller and Canning, Magini.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End, (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large, and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.
Silence a polite negative.
Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.
Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields**, at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.
NOTE.—These Matinées are discontinued until further notice.
Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—
(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.
Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.
Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager**, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.
Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.
The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.
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MISS PATTI LOFTUS.
Dec. 15, Rehearsals, Panto.
Dec. 22, King's Lynn.

MR. JACK PATTERSON.
Eccentric Change Juggler.
Dec. 15, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.
Dec. 22, Hippo., Richmond, London.

ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Tuesday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest, Co.—Dec. 22, Hip., Pontycymmer.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Swift).—Dec. 22, Queen's Pk. Hip., Manchester.
Be Careful, Baby.—Dec. 15, County, Reading.
Betty at Bay.—Dec. 15, L.T., Edinburgh; 22, New, Salisbury.
Billeted.—Dec. 15, Hippo., Richmond.
Chu Chin Chow.—Dec. 15, T.R., Glasgow; 22, T.R., Glasgow.
Chu Chin Chow (Red).—Dec. 15, T.R., Leamington; 22, Court, Warrington.
Compton Comedy Co.—Dec. 15, T.R., Merthyr; 22, T.R., Limerick.
Curse of the Black Pearl.—Dec. 15, Hip., Wrexham.
Daddy Long-Legs.—Dec. 15, Emp., Preston.
Disgraced.—Dec. 15, Hippo., Eastbourne.
Dobell, W. L., Rep. Co.—Dec. 15, Whitworth Hall, Drogheda.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Dec. 15, Royal Court, Wigan; 22, W.G., Blackpool.
Female Hun.—Dec. 15, T.R., Bath.
Five Nights.—Dec. 15, O.H., Buxton.
Freedom of the Seas (Brasher).—Dec. 15, T.R., Chatham.
Freedom of the Seas (T. C. Dagnall's Co.).—Dec. 15, Grand, Southampton.
Full Steam Ahead.—Dec. 22, T.R., Guildford.
Gay Bohemia.—Dec. 15, New, Oxford.
Gerard Co. (Rex).—Dec. 15, G., Wellington; 22, King's, Oswestry.
Girl from Ciro's.—Dec. 15, Hip., Keighley, 22, Pal., Llanelly.
Hero Hathaway & V. A. Baron Rep. Co.—Dec. 15, Emp., West Stanley.
Hill-Mitchelson, E., Co. (stock company).—T.R., Leicester.
House of Peril.—Dec. 15, Garr., Ripon; 22, Garr., Catterick.
Irish Players.—Dec. 15, Dublin; 26, Town Hall, Galway.
King of the Air.—Dec. 15, Hip., Woolwich; 22, Imp., Canning Town.
Kiss Call.—Dec. 26, P.O.W., Birmingham.
La Poupée.—Dec. 15, Grand, Oldham.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Dec. 15, Hip., Bolton.
Laurence and West Symes Co.—15, Hip., Scarboro'.
Lodge, Percy, Rep. Co.—Dec. 15, Met., Glasgow.
Maid of the South.—Dec. 15, Lincoln; 22, Hull.
Married Sinners.—Dec. 22, T.R., Stratford.
Mill Girl's Wedding.—Dec. 15, Hip., Bolton.
Mother Goose (Ventom Swift).—Dec. 15, King's, Manchester; 22 Crown, Eccles.
My Aunt from New York.—Dec. 15, Hip., Bolton.
Naughty Wife.—Dec. 15, Borough, Stratford.
Nobody's Boy.—Dec. 15, T.R., Brighton.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Dec. 15, Burnley.
One Law for Both.—Dec. 15, New, Salisbury.
Peg o' My Heart (A. Butt).—Dec. 15, T.R., Newcastle.
Peg o' My Heart (Ralland & Cameron).—Dec. 15, Doncaster; 22, Whitehaven.
Purple Mask (Matheson Lang Co.).—Dec. 15, O.H., Lincoln.
Quaker Girl.—Dec. 15, Princesses', Crayford.
Ridding Opera Co.—Dec. 15, Music Hall, Inverness; 22, Emp., Motherwell.
Right to Live.—Dec. 15, R., Stratford, E.
Rosary.—Dec. 15, O.H., Cork; 22, King's Gainsboro'.
Roses of Picardy.—Dec. 15, Shaftesbury, Boston; 22, Playhouse, Faversham.
Sally in Society.—Dec. 15, T.R., Dewsbury; 22, T.R., Leigh.
Secret Service Girl.—Dec. 15, E., Islington.
Sign of the Cross.—Dec. 15, Empire, Tonypandy.
Soiled (N.).—Dec. 15, Grand, Brighton.
Sweethearts and Wives.—Dec. 15, T.R., Winchester.
Temporary Gentleman.—Dec. 15, T.R., Norwich.
Three Weeks.—Dec. 15, Grand, Derby; 22, Court, Wigan.
Wagner & Scarden Rep. Co.—Dec. 15, Hip., Eastbourne.
What is Home Without a Mother?—Dec. 15, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Who's Hooper?—Dec. 22, King's, Glasgow.
Woman's Victory.—Dec. 15, Hip., Bolton.
Yellow Ticket.—Dec. 15, Harrogate; 22, Royalty, Barrow-in-Furness.

REVUES.

By Jingo.—Dec. 15, Pal., Redditch.
Certainly Not.—Dec. 15, T.H., Stockport.
Ching Ching.—Dec. 15, Vic., Elton, N.B.
Coming Down.—Dec. 15, Col., Portsmouth; 22, Hip., Margate.
Funbeams.—Dec. 15, Emp., Glasgow; 22, Emp., Edinburgh.
Ginger.—Dec. 15, Hip., Burslem.
Heads or Tails.—Dec. 15, Hip., Ipswich; 22, New, Boston.
Hooray! We're Here.—Dec. 15, Pal., Newcastle; 22, T.R., Middlesbro'.
Hullo, Baby!—Dec. 22, Col., Portsmouth.
Hustle.—Nov. 15, Emp., Edinburgh; 22, Nottingham.
Joy Days.—Nov. 15, Hip., Darwen.
Kissing Time.—Dec 22 Lyc., Edinburgh.
Mumming Birds.—Dec. 15, Palladium, London; 22, Hip., Coventry.
Na-Poo.—Dec. 15, Yarmouth.
Odds On.—Dec. 15, Shepherd's Bush; 22, Pal., Plymouth.
Oh, Bessy.—Dec. 15, P.O.W., Grimsby; 22, Grand, Doncaster.
Oh, I.—Dec. 15, Hip., Darlington.
Redheads.—Dec. 15, Pal., Bordesley.
Sky High.—Dec. 15, Alhambra, Leith; 22, Tivoli, Aberdeen.
Toodle-oo!—Dec. 15, Hip., Yarmouth; 22, Lawn, Skegness.
What a Lad.—Dec. 15, Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
What Next.—Nov. 15, Pal., Grimsby; 22, L.T.V., Willesden.

A "CHU CHIN CHOW" DINNER

AN O.P. CLUB HAPPY EVENING.

Some 350 ladies and gentlemen were present at the "Chu Chin Chow" dinner given by the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday, to pay homage to those concerned in the play which has had the longest run in history.

The chair was occupied by Gen. Sir C. F. Nevil Macready, and sitting at his table were Lady Benson, Miss Lily Brayton, Sir Frank Benson, Mr. Oscar Asche, Sir John and Lady Ferguson, Mr. Fredk. Harlow, Miss Aileen D'Orme, and Mr. Courtice Pounds.

The Longest Run.

In submitting the toast of the occasion "Chu Chin Chow," Sir Nevil Macready recalled that by birth he was of the theatrical profession, mentioning that his father's one ideal was the elevation of his art. He could realise the great changes between audiences past and present, mentioning that in July, 1837, the curtain went up at a Brighton theatre without one single individual for the audience (Laughter.) In his family there was a tradition that his grandfather suffered from the same trouble one night. In those days even famous plays had short runs compared with those of to-day. He realised the immense extent to which the theatre-going public had grown, and in this connection he observed that there was an inclination on somebody's part to suppress queues. There was no doubt a risk that people who stood for hours in queues might catch cold, but to him that seemed no legitimate reason for legislative interference. Still, if theatrical managers really wished to put an end to queues he was willing to lend his assistance, but not otherwise. Now as in the past, audiences were not tolerant of a bad or indifferent play. His grandfather, by the way, had played in "Plighted Troth," which ran for one night. (Laughter.)

Record Runs.

The chairman referred to some plays which had had conspicuously long runs, notably "Tom and Jerry," which ran for 100 nights, a record in the old days. That play dealt with old Charlies, who were subsequently, in 1829, abolished by Sir Robert Peel, who created the Police Force. Now they had a play which had created theatrical history, for "Chu Chin Chow" had continued longer than any known play in the history of the stage—which suggested to him that successful long runs must go hand in hand with an efficient police force. (Laughter.) Mr. Oscar Asche had eclipsed all records, and like Johnny Walker, was still going strong.

The Genesis of the Play.

In acknowledging the toast, Mr. Oscar Asche told the story of how the play came to be produced. In 1915 he was an actor and his wife was an actress, or rather, they were on the stage and earning a living by pretending to act. At that time they were in Manchester, of all cities in the world, and he persuaded his wife to go golfing. They found the links, however, had been commandeered by the military, and when they returned to their hotel it began to rain. As it was impossible to play golf, and as it was raining, he decided to write a pantomime for fun about Ali Baba and the forty thieves. That was why their chairman was there that night to keep an eye on the leader of the forty thieves. (Laughter.) Satan found work for idle hands to do. Since then he had ceased to be an actor, and his wife had ceased to be an actress.

Mr. Asche also told how some people declined "Chu Chin Chow." He took it to Daly's, where they never looked at it; and sent it elsewhere to people who said it was no good. He heard His Majesty's Theatre was vacant, and Mr. Dana agreed to produce it on condition that he (Mr. Asche) and his wife would play in it

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX.

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Blanche, Miss M.
Bolgere, Mr.
Bottomly, Mr. R. M.
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Buckley, Miss Ina
Burnett, Miss Rosie
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Calthorp, Mr. D.
Calvert, Mr. James
Caper, Mr. T. Treby
Carr, Mr. G.
Carton, Mr. Ormond
Cecil, Mr. J. J.
Cellier, Mr. Frank
Cole, Mr. Lionel
Collard, Mr. Avalon
Collier, Miss C.
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Elsom, Miss Isobel
Elworthy, Mr. W. T.
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Fane, Mr. R. M.
Fane, Miss Hettie
Fazan, Mr.
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Fleming, Mr. Noel
Ford, Miss Gene
Ford, Mr. Matt
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Fulton, Miss Kate
Garbois, Mrs. W. H.
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Gilbert, Mr. Ralph
Gill, Mr. and Mrs. I.
Ginner, Miss Ruby
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Hallard, Mr. C. M.
Halstan, Miss Margaret
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Harvey, Miss Marie
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Hickes, Miss Anna
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Lauder, Sir Harry
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Nelson, Mr. Phil
Newman, Miss Zoe
Nicholson, Mr. C. I.
Northcote, Mr. Sydney
Norton, Mr. Davis
O'Cready, Mr. W.
Olracs, Ivy
O'Neil, Miss Peggy
Osman, Miss Gladys
Paganini, Mr. B.
Paule, Miss Jeanne
Pearce, Mr. Walter
Penny, Ian
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Piquo, Mr. H.
Poel, Mr. William
Powel, Mr. William
Prim, Miss Pauline
Quartermaine, Mr. Allan
Rae, Miss Doris
Ramsay, Mr. J. Nelson
Rand, Miss Dorothy
Rappo, Messrs., & Ella
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Reid, Mr. F. W.
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Richardson, Mr. J. H.
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Stoodley, Miss Emma
Strong, Mr. Mark
Stuart, Miss Daisy
Suckley, Mr. Cramer
Sugden, Mr. Chas.
Swanston, Mr. A.
Syd & May
Tane, Miss Hettie
Taylor, Miss Maidie
Temple, Miss M.
Terrace, Mrs. R.
Tetrazzini, Madame
Teyte, Miss M.
The New Mack
Thonil, Miss Ivy
Thorne, Mr. E.
Tindell, Miss Ivy
Toye, Mr. Eddie
Trehearne, Miss Kitty
Tulley, Mr. Richard
Ufer, Mr. Richard
Vallarino, Miss Ida
Vere, Miss Grace
Villier, Miss Phyllis
Vincent, Mr. W. G.
Vuire and Colley
Wemyss, Mr. Chas.
West, Mr. Harry B.
Whitcliff Ten Trio
Whyte, Mr. A.
Wighton, Mr. Ernest
Wilby, Mr. F. L.
Wilding, Mr. Harry
Wilkshire, Mr. V.
William, Mr. H. G.
Williams, Mr. Grafton
Williams, Mr. R. A. P.
Wilson, Mr. Joseph
Willis, Mr. Hubert
Wingfield, Mr. Conway
Wingfield, Miss V.
Wingrove, Mrs. I.

He replied that they did not do pantomime, and was told that there was always a chance to rise. (Laughter.)

No End to "Chu Chin Chow."

Now he could not say when "Chu Chin Chow" would stop, unless members of the O.P. Club would assist him to stop it. As a pupil of Sir Frank Benson and Sir Herbert Tree—men who thought less of money and more of Art—it was he who had perpetrated this record run and destroyed in some respects his Art, because there was nothing which destroyed Art or ambition so much as success. (Laughter.) Still, the long run of "Chu Chin Chow" had earned a lot of money for the Government. When the O.P. Club had assisted them to end the run, by staying away and inducing their friends and their children to stay away, they would be able to offer the public something better, and to return to their former state of actor and actress. Having played Shakespeare, it was terrible to be relegated to hash. He thanked them for having so cordially received the toast—but they could not bluff him. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Frederick Norton, who wrote the music, also responded, incidentally mentioning that he was associated with the work of Sir Nevil Macready—as a special constable.

Sir Frank Benson, who proposed "His Majesty's Theatre Company," declared that Mr. Asche had made his mark on the stage, and described Miss Lily Brayton as one of the fairy queens of the stage.

Mr. Courtice Pounds acknowledged the toast, and thanked the Club for its generous hospitality on such a memorable evening.

The health of the chairman was drunk on the proposal of Sir John Ferguson (vice-president of the Club).

CRICKLEWOOD OPERATIC SOCIETY.

This society's production of "The Mikado," at Cricklewood, on the 4th inst. was mainly noticeable for Mr. Edward Robey's acting as Lord High Executioner. It was a well studied and amusing piece of work, and head and shoulders above the rest of the performance. He already shows signs of becoming a good light comedian; is quite at ease on the stage, and much of his work has a real vein of originality. His voice is rather immature at present, nevertheless he managed to secure some half-dozen encores for "The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring." Miss Helen Shaw sang very charmingly as Yum-Yum, and Miss Marion Jauncey was fairly successful as Pitti-Sing. More in the spirit of the play, however, was Mr. Charles Andrew's Pooh-Bah, which was quite whimsical at times. Mr. William Tait added touches of originality to the part of the Mikado, and Miss Mabel Parsons sang dramatically as Katisha. Mr. Percy Penny, however, had neither the figure nor the voice for Nanki-Poo. The chorus sang the concerted numbers very well.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to

Christine Silver—Wednesday, Dec. 17.
A. B. Walkley—Wednesday, Dec. 17.
Georgie Wood—Wednesday, Dec. 17.
Gladys Cooper—Thursday, Dec. 18.
H. A. Saintsbury—Thursday, Dec. 18.
Georgina Hamilton—Friday, Dec. 19.
Yvonne Arnaud—Saturday, Dec. 20.
P. Kinsay Peile—Saturday, Dec. 20.
Letty Lind—Sunday, Dec. 21.
Claire Romaine—Sunday, Dec. 21.

THE BEN GREET STUDENTS.

A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME.

The Students' Performance given at the Bijou Theatre on Friday afternoon proved beyond doubt that the Ben Greet Academy is flourishing apace. There are more male students than when we last attended one of these functions, and a greater variety of work can now be tackled. The programme on Friday started with Shakespeare and finished with Shaw, and embraced specimens of almost every school of playwriting. The neatest piece of acting of the afternoon came from Miss Leila King as Eliza Dolittle in Act III. of Shaw's "Pygmalion." Miss Madeleine Temple also made a successful Queen Katherine in scenes from Shakespeare's Henry VIII., whilst Miss Constance Barrett was very little behind her in merit. Miss Phyllis Wolmer, who made a delightfully girlish Gwendolin in Act I. of "The Importance of Being Earnest," must beware of acting in too detached and restless a manner, and Miss Molly Duncan, who possesses a beautiful speaking voice, should not carry artistic restraint to the extent of making herself inaudible. With attention to these minor points these young ladies should have excellent futures.

Among the gentlemen, Mr. Bernard Jukes was the most successful. Starting somewhat nervously as John Worthing in Wilde's play, Mr. Jukes performed positive marvels of characterisation as an old man in "A Boy's Proposal," a one-act comedy by Arthur Eckersley. In the same playlet a success was also scored by Master Frank Douglas, a youthful actor with a nice sense of the stage. Mr. J. Calverley gave a sound embodiment of King Henry VIII. in scenes from the play of that name, and Mr. P. Tennant made a robust lover in Graham Price's Fantasy, "The Song of the Seal." All due credit, too, to Mr. Gerald Grestock, who made a sincere if diminutive Cardinal Wolsey. Mr. J. Harvie Stewart, whilst being very successful in declamatory passages, spoils a lot of his characterisation by a droop of the head. The work done bore eloquent testimony to the excellent tuition provided by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, whilst the "Gipsy Dance" performed by Miss Doris Middleton reflected great credit on the head of the dancing department, Miss Olive Deeks.

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—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

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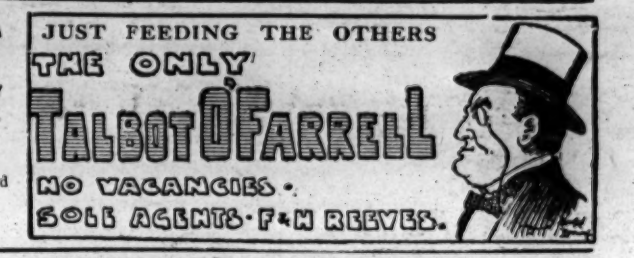

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All coms., c/o HUGHES RYNER, Variety Agent, 247, Rue St. Honore, Paris

MARY MORAN

with Stella Weste in "FLASHES OF WIT AND MELODY"

P.A., Sylvadene, Cumberland Road, Bromley, Kent.

GERRARD

The Music Mad Violinist

COLLINS'S All Coms., c/o The "Era."

BRIDSON The Musician Ventriloquist.

Booked Syndicate Tour into 1925 by Tom Rice (I.V.T.A.). Thanks also to Jack Somers, A. Scranton, H Kenyon, H. Zahl, Fred Collins, etc., for dates.

LEONARD SYLVIA

FISHER and LEA

"SOME" JAZZS AND "SOME" WHIRLS.

All Coms., LEW LAKE.

IN ACTIVE PREPARATION.

A NEW SCREAMING BURLESQUE

Presented to the Proprietors, Managers and Public, by

LEW LAKE.

FEATURING

"PIMPLE."

THE KING OF BURLESQUE COMEDIANS.

DOC CAMPBELL

Originator of Comedy Cycling "Entanglements."

This Week, PALACE, HUDDERSFIELD
VACANT, Dec. 22, for London ONLY

UNEXPECTEDLY VACANT FOR PANTO. OR REVUE MONDAY NEXT.

WALLACE ORTON SEXTETTE

Of MALE Vocalists and Dancers.
Six Smart Young Gentlemen.

Concluding tour with "Sailor Lad." This Week, GRAND, MANSFIELD

Capable of Parts, assist Chorus and Speciality Thanks for offers for the Spring.

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"LUCKY OLD BILL"

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THE BURLESQUE COMEDIAN

ON TOUR

Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

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"Where do Flies go in the Winter Time?"

ON TOUR

WILL

VAN ALLEN

15 minutes' Talk and a Banjo.

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THE ORIGINAL CHOCOLATE COLOURED COON.

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WARDINI

SOUTH LONDON

THE ANARTOS

ARTHUR & LAWRENCE

"Oh! Lawrence"

"Tomorrow will be Friday"

By Fred Patterson

Rehearsing for Panto. T.R. NOTTINGHAM. Agent, WALTER BENTLEY.

PETER META

DONALD and CARSON

"THE STABLE BOY." "Doing Very Well, Thank You."

ON TOUR

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THE NOVELTY COMEDY ILLUSIONIST Assisted by GERTIE REES

This Week, TIVOLI, NEW BRIGHTON. Next, HIPPO., ASTON

KENNA BROS.,

THE FUNNY AIRMEN,

Back in England shortly. All Coms., c/o The "Era."

Howard FLYNN and Elsye HAYNSON

The Celebrated Composer-Pianist. The Little Lady with the Big Voice.

In Original Song Creations featuring Famous Melodies.

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P.A., 96, GRAY'S INN ROAD, W.C.

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DALY & HEALY

2 Sons of Respectable Parents

Adopted by GEORGE BARCLAY.

RENEE & GODFREY

The Greatest Juvenile Dancers, and British, too!

This, EMP., NOTTINGHAM Next, CARDIFF GEO. BARCLAY.

MAUDE ASTON

IN "SQUIBS."

GRAND, CLAPHAM

MICHAELOFF

TRIO.

Featuring the New Ballade,

"THE ROSE THAT MADE YOU MINE."

SUNG BY MDLLE. ANUTA.

Dec. 22 and 29, PANTO. ROYAL, GUILDFORD.

FIELDS & DOREEN

The Artistic Dancing Couple.

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Vacant, Feb. 16 till March 15. No Sole Agent.

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ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.

Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR DECEMBER 22, 1919.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Eva Moore and Athole Stewart in "The Punctual Sex," Mme. Haru Onuki, Beatie and Babs, De Biere, Tex McLeod, Cornalia and Eddie, Nathano Brothers, Femina Quartette, Edgar Curtis, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)

Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Billy French, 3 Van Dammes, Bioscope, and company as booked.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Scott Gibson, Will Tyler, Harry Ford, Mary Leighton, Barton and Ashley, The McLeans, Foreman and Fannan, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Three Neslos, Dollie and Billie, Roxy La Rocca, Frank Le Dent, Taylor and Summers, Veronica Brady, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Sons of the Sea."

CHATHAM EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

"The Whirl of To day."

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Ida Wise, Alexander Prince, Mazuz and Mazette, O'Neil and Thayer, Ernest Krake and Co., Sinclaris and Dalva, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.

Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Prince, Dolly Victoria and Brother, Torino, Peter Bernard, The Buchanans, Trevor and Ware, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Mart and Pep, Jim Nolan, O'Hara Sisters, Four Swifts, Frank Whitman, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"On the Wing."

(Matinees Monday, Tuesday and Friday.)

PICTURE HOUSE, CHATHAM

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.

Daily at 2.30 and 7.30 "Tarzan of the Apes" and "Daddy Longlegs."

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE

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Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Dec. 22, 1919.

LONDON PAVILION

Rehearsal at 11.30.

C. B. Cochran's Production "Afgar."

OXFORD.

Rehearsal at 12.

C. B. Cochran's Production "Maggie."

METROPOLITAN

Rehearsal at 12.15.

Daisy Jerome. George French. Les Grande Stellas. Jizuka and Partner. Eddy Reed. Henri Merton. Eileen Simms. Solo. Bioscope.

CHELSEA.

Rehearsal at 12.

The Burlesque Productions present Pantomime "Mother Goose." Munroe and Robbins. Bioscope.

EUSTON.

Rehearsal at 12.

Harry Burns presents The Welch Conrad production "Making Movies." Kirkby and Hudson. The Great Wieland Fred Keeton. Bernaert and Goldy. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Rehearsal at 1.

Harry Burns presents Pantomime "Dick Whittington."

SOUTH LONDON.

Rehearsal at 12.

Dan Rolyat. Leo Stormont and Co. in "The Doctor's Duel." Terry's Juveniles. Ida Barr. Bryan O'Sullivan. Bertini and Asche. Mdlle. Doria's Dogs. La Belle Nello. Bioscope.

EAST HAM.

Rehearsal at 12.

Jack Cromo's Fairy Pantomime "Little Jack Horner."

TOTTENHAM.

Rehearsal at 12.

Harry Burns presents "Robinson Crusoe." The Colonial Girls. Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

Rehearsal at 12.

Lew Lake presents Scott and Whaley in "Me and My Gal."

WATFORD PALACE.

Rehearsal at 1.

William Garland presents "All Black."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to each hall three weeks prior to date of opening.

My Boyhood Days.

PAUL GORDON

A NEW KIND OF WIRE WALKER.

HIPPO., MANCHESTER

Booked by Percy Riess, N.V.A.

DAREWSKI'S

Wonderful Winners—

WHERE DO FLIES GO IN THE WINTERTIME?

AND

THTOP YOUR THTUTTERING, THAMMY.

Sung by

ERNIE MAYNE.

.....

Other Great Darewski Pantomime Songs

IF YOU COULD CARE.
EVERYTHING IS PEACHES DOWN IN GEORGIA.
I'M SORRY I MADE YOU CRY.
IN THE LAND OF BEGINNING AGAIN.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY LOVING SOMEBODY ELSE?
NOW YOU'VE COME BACK TO ME.
EVERYTHING IS BONNIE UP IN SCOTLAND
OLD-FASHIONED SWEETHEART.
NOW THAT THE WAR IS OVER.
CAN YOU TAME WILD WIMMEN?
IN A QUAINT OLD NORMANDY TOWN.
CHILDHOOD WILDHOOD DAYS.
WHERE DID YOU FIND THE LADY?
SINGAPORE.
WHAT COULD BE SWEETER?
BY THE CAMP FIRE.
TEN LITTLE PUSSYFEET.
JOHNNY'S IN TOWN.
WHO KILLED POOR PUSSYFOOT?

Send 1/6 for Special Selection from the above Songs.

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LOVE'S ROSARY. VIRGINIA BLUES.

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TOWN TOPIC RAG.
GENEVIEVE VALSE DRAMATIQUE.
BIG FAT MA FOX TROT.
GOLDEN ROD FOX TROT.

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YOU CAN COME BACK TO ME.
GRANNY. JA-DA.
HEARTACHES.
ORIENTAL ROSEBUD.
CHONG.
L'IL LIZA JANE.
KIDNAP ME.

Send 1/6 for Special Selection from the above Songs.

Herman Darewski

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